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1989 MEED Report
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 Presentation and release of the report by author at
 Kuwait Sheraton on 6th March 9 am to 1 pm
 Cost KD. 50/- per participant (includes cost of the report)
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Israelis and Palestinians are in expanded dialogue

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, Feb 17, (Agencies): Israeli officials, parliament members and academics are engaged in an expanding dialogue with Palestinians that has triggered a burgeoning controversy about the path to peace.

The increasing contacts, conducted here and abroad, may break down a widespread psychological taboo in Israel about dealing with the PLO.

But the talks are opposed by right-wing followers of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and triggered fresh tensions this week within the coalition government of his Likud Bloc and the more dovish Labour Party.

Two widely publicised encounters this week in a Vatican-run hostel in Jerusalem involved three prominent Palestinians and leading Labour Party members close to Finance Minister Shimon Peres.

Peres has endorsed the dialogue and hinted he may join in the informal discussions later despite prompted two reserve Army generals, Abaron Yariv and Shlomo Gazit, to back out of a third meeting with centrist politicians last night.

Labour parliament member Avraham Burg, who attended one meeting, said an aim of the

dialogue was to "create an awareness" that Israel could not ignore the Palestinians.

"We both suffered from an on-going process of demonisation of the enemy. I want the Israelis to realise that something is going on, and... that we have no excuse any more to say there is nobody to talk to," said Burg.

Faisal Hussein, a Palestinian aligned with Yasser Arafat's PLO who attended the meeting, said he has begun a campaign to explain the PLO's proposals, accepting invitations to address Israeli audiences.

"It is time to go and talk to these people, and let them see the monster face to face, and see he is not a monster," Hussein said, adding he wanted to reach mainstream Israelis and not just leftists.

"Palestinians are accepting the idea of meeting with Israelis more close to the centre," added Hussein.

However, right-wing members of parliament sharply attacked the Palestinian-Israeli dialogue, with Tehiya's Eliezer Waldman urging left-wing parliament members be put on trial for "working with the enemies of Israel."

Yossi Ahimeir, spokesman for Shamir, said the dialogue lacked

political significance. "We don't consider these meetings as important. On the contrary, it will not come to anything. These people are not in charge of making policy for the state," he said.

Ahimeir added that such talks could heat up the political atmosphere, leading to a resurgence of riots in the occupied territories.

Contacts

Some contacts with local PLO supporters have been carried out by Defence Ministry officials and senior Army officers as part of an initiative by Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, a Labour Party hawk.

Meanwhile, a Palestinian protester shot by Israeli soldiers in the occupied West Bank died today of chest wounds.

An Army spokesman said that troops patrolling the Nablus cash (market) last evening opened fire at a man about to drop a stone block on them from a building.

Officials at Nablus's Al-Itihad hospital identified the man as Assem Mohamed Mahmoud Al Bulbul, 25. They said he died shortly after midnight.

Merchants in Nablus, the West Bank's largest town, closed shops today to mourn Bulbul's death, residents said.

Bush and Benazir among the best dressed

NEW YORK, Feb 17, (UPI): President George Bush, Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and Empress Michiko of Japan share honours on the 1989 best dressed list voted on by several hundred members of the fashion industry, it was announced yesterday.

One of the list's surprises was the naming of New York attorney John F. Kennedy Jr., whose mother, Jacqueline Onassis, was elevated to the best dressed Hall of Fame two decades ago. He was one of the younger selections, along with Princess Diana of Wales.

The list, which got its start during World War II to promote American fashion design, also honoured British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher with a citation describing her as "a constant example of unflinching elegance and appropriate dress in public life." Thatcher was on the list last year.

Benazir is a newcomer to the list, as are Bush and Empress Michiko, who wears both her native kimono and Western dress.

Bush was named with this comment from the list committee: "During his hectic presidential campaign and his first months as President, George Bush has demonstrated a significant sense of personal style and thorough understanding of clothing in relation to public image, appropriateness and tasteful comfort. He is a carefully dressed public figure, at ease on the job."

Also on the women's list were: Brooke Astor, New York social leader and philanthropist; Karole Armitage, choreographer-dancer with the American ballet theatre.

Countess Camilla Chandon, member of a prominent French champagne producing family.

Nina Griscorn, New York socialite model.

Carolina Herrera Jr., of New York, college student daughter of the fashion designer.

Irish Landeau, Paris social leader.

Marina Palma, Italian socialite.

Blaine Trump, New York, wife of realtor Robert and sister-in-law of Donald Trump.

Alexandra Theodoropoulou, London and New York socialite and ex-wife of columnist Taki.

The men's list also included: Eric Boman, Swedish-born photographer.

Count Frederick Chandon, French vintner and husband of Countess Camilla.

Richard Burt, US Ambassador, most recently to West Germany.

Graydon Carter, Canadian-born co-owner of spy magazine.

Bryan Ferry, British singer.

Christopher (Kip) Forbes, executive of Forbes Magazine and son of Malcolm.

Count Paul de Ganay, French socialite-businessman.

Mark Hampton, New York interior designer.

Steve Martin, American actor.

Security Council approves Namibia independence plan

UNITED NATIONS, Feb 17, (AP): The first UN peacekeepers to oversee Namibia's transition from 74 years of South African rule to independence planned to arrive today in Namibia for consultations with local police officials.

Commissioner Steven Fanning, the head of a UN police unit that will monitor Namibia's National Police force, also will arrive today in Namibia, said the UN's special representative for Namibia, Martti Ahtisaari.

Fanning is to hold weekend talks with Namibia's Commissioner of Police, Gen. Dolf Gouwus, said Ahtisaari.

Namibian police, who have South African officers, will remain responsible for civil order, but will be supervised by 500 UN police officers.

Adoption

The UN move into Namibia follows the Security Council's unanimous adoption yesterday of a resolution authorising Namibia's independence process to begin April 1. The date is to be the beginning of a one-year plan for Namibia's transition to an independent, black majority-ruled country.

Early next week Gen. Dewan Prem Chand, the commander of the military peacekeeping con-

tingent, plans to arrive with more civilian administrators, Ahtisaari said.

The UN Security Council also approved a report by Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar that calls for sending 4,650 UN military peacekeepers, 500 police supervisors and at least 1,000 civilian election monitors to Namibia.

UN officials had not worked out which countries will provide personnel for the peacekeeping force, but for the first time China has offered to send up to 20 election monitors, an Asian diplomat said.

The UN's Namibian independence mission will be called the UN Transition Assistance Group (UNTAG).

Approved

Perez de Cuellar has estimated UNTAG will cost \$416 million in its first year, making it the biggest UN peacekeeping mission since the Belgian Congo operation of 1960-64, which cost more than \$400 million at that time and involved 19,828 soldiers at its peak.

The General Assembly yesterday approved funds for a 70-man team of UN military observers who will monitor the withdrawal of 50,000 Cuban troops from

Angola as neighbouring Namibia becomes independent.

That group, the UN Angola Verification Mission (UNAVEM), was budgeted at \$9.2 million for this year, and total of \$19.4 million over its entire 31-month mandate of overseeing the Cuban withdrawal.

General Assembly President Dante Caputo, the foreign minister of Argentina, said the assembly probably will meet next week to approve funding for the UNTAG signed accords at UN headquarters with the Southwest African peace plan that includes the Cuban pullout and the Namibian independence process.

South Africa refused to relinquish control of Namibia without the withdrawal of the Cuban troops, saying their presence just over Namibia's northern border could intimidate voters during the independence process.

All Cuban troops are to be out of Angola by July 1991.

Cuban troops have been in Angola at that country's request since 1975 to defend it from attacks by South African troops and the US-backed rebels of UNITA, the National Union for the Total Liberation of Angola.

Iran offers a way out to Rushdie

(Continued from Page 1)

Pakistan lodged protests yesterday with the US and Britain demanding that the novel be banned and all copies destroyed.

The award-winning book at the centre of the row is a surreal novel portraying a struggle between good and evil and probing questions of the Islamic faith. Rushdie has denied it is blasphemous.

The controversy has boosted the book into the best-seller list in the United States, although one book chain said it had removed it from the shelves to protect staff.

A Danish firm joined other European publishers in planning translations, while France's conservative newspaper Le Figaro published controversial passages from the book, stating: "Our duty is to inform."

Punished

In Egypt, where the book is banned, novelist Naguib Mahfouz — who last year became the only Arab to have won the Nobel literature prize — said Khomeini should be punished for urging Muslims to kill Rushdie.

In Kuwait, a senior official said the Organisation of Islamic Conference, an umbrella organisation for the world's 46 Muslim nations, had not received an official Iranian request for an emergency session on "The Satanic Verses."

Deserve

Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati made the call in a meeting with foreign reporters yesterday, Kuwaiti newspapers reported.

The official, Foreign Undersecretary Suleiman Majed Al Shaheen, said he thought the book did not deserve "all this fuss."

"Raising this question on such a level will be counter-productive," he said, in the first official comment on the issue from any of Iran's Gulf neighbours.

"Several other anti-Islam books have been published before but failed to affect or distort our religion," he said.

War cost Iran, Iraq \$350 billion

ABU DHABI, Feb 17, (Reuters): Iraq and Iran spent a total of about \$350 billion on their eight-year war and they face a bleak economic future, a leading Arab economist said.

"From the first glance, one might imagine Iraq is no more burdened by the war and is on its way towards economic recovery. But that is not really what is going on," Mohammed Said Al Nabulsi from the Abu Dhabi-based Arab Monetary Fund said.

"Iran's plight may be worse than Iraq's and they are now debating whether to borrow or persist in their belt-tightening policy," he said in a lecture in Abu Dhabi.

Nabulsi estimated the Iranians and Iraqis up to last August's ceasefire spent a total of \$350 billion on the war — the equivalent of one third of total Arab oil revenues over the past 10 years.

Import

At current oil prices of \$15 to 16 per barrel, Iraq's annual revenues would not exceed \$12 billion, said Nabulsi, who served for three years in Baghdad as head of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission until 1988.

Iraq could be forced to cut its current import bill of \$17 to 18 billion but would be unable to get it under 10 billion a year after spending on essential defence, consumer, and reconstruction materials, he said.

Iran, with current revenues of around \$10 to 12 billion and 50 million people, about three times the population of Iraq, would not have enough money to rebuild effectively, said Nabulsi.

He also said one million people died in the war.

India will release Sikh detainees soon

CHANDIGARH, Feb 17, (Reuters): Sikh suspects held since the 1984 attack by the Indian Army on the Golden Temple of Amritsar will be released soon, official sources in the Punjab capital said yesterday.

Release of the 168 remaining detainees, charged with waging war against the state but never put on trial, would be a major step towards solving the Sikh separatist agitation that cost 2,500 lives in the north Indian state last year.

The sources also said Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi was to call an all-party political meeting late this month or in early March to try to end the bloodshed. The detainees would be freed about the same time, they added.

Soviets stage nuclear test

MOSCOW, Feb 17, (AP): The Soviet Union exploded a nuclear device with a yield of up to 20 kilotons to investigate what happens during a nuclear explosion, the official Tass news agency reported today.

The underground nuclear test was conducted at Semipalatinsk, in the Soviet Central Asian Republic of Kazakhstan, at 7:01 am Moscow time (0401 GMT)

today, Tass said. It said the device exploded had a yield of up to 20 kilotons, or the equivalent of 20,000 tons of TNT, which was the power of the US atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima in 1945.

Tass said the test was designed "to check the results of research in the field of the physics of a nuclear explosion," but gave no further details.

PAKISTAN CARPET EXHIBITION

The history of hand-knotted carpets in Pakistan dates back to the 16th century. The progress in Pakistani carpets in recent years is in the mainstream of Oriental carpets.

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South African detainee freed under pact

CAPE TOWN, Feb 17, (Reuters): A prominent South African activist was freed and six others were ordered released today as the government acted on a deal to end a fast to the death by political activists detained without trial.

Lawyer Essa Moosa had been asked to fetch United Democratic Front (UDF) activist Trevor Manuel from Cape Town's Pollsmoor prison, a spokeswoman for Moosa said.

Earlier today, a ministry spokesman said Law and Order Minister Adriaan Vlok had signed orders for the release of seven political detainees before a morning session of parliament and might authorise further releases later in the day or at the weekend.

Vlok undertook in meetings with Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu and other church leaders yesterday to release within two weeks "a substantial number" of the estimated 1,000 detainees.

The detainees ended their fast after Vlok's concession but lawyers said about 20, who were in hospital, could take weeks to recover enough to go home.

Consensus

CAIRO, Feb 17, (Reuters): Egypt, ostracised by most Arabs for almost a decade for making peace with Israel, will return to the Arab League only if all members agree, a government minister said yesterday.

"If there is a consensus, we will be happy to return," Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Boutros Boutros Ghali said.

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French designer Guy Laroche dies at 66

PARIS, Feb 17, (Reuters): French fashion designer Guy Laroche died during the night at the age of 66 after a long illness, his fashion house said today.

Laroche, one of the world's best-known Haute Couture designers, was renowned for the casual chic he offered women at reasonable prices.

Laroche died at his Paris home, a spokeswoman for the Couturier said.

The diminutive, ailing Laroche was awarded high fashion's Golden Thimble award for the best spring Haute Couture collection three weeks ago.

It was his second Golden Thimble in a 31-year career and many commentators saw it as an affectionate tribute to Laroche, who had been fighting cancer for a year and a half.

Daring innovation and eye-catching eccentricity were never his forte.

"Guy Laroche dressed women, he didn't disguise them," one commentator said.

Laroche offered women reliably elegant clothes in which the beautiful cut and glowing colours betrayed the hand of a master.

Consensus on fundamental issues

'Re-legalisation of Solidarity settled'

WARSAW, Feb 17, (UPI): Government and Solidarity negotiators said they have reached agreement on fundamental issues involved in the re-legalisation of the banned trade union, but cautioned it was too early to declare a breakthrough.

In a joint statement released yesterday, the two sides said new labour unions in the future can be regional in scope and will have "freedom in the formation of their organisational structures."

Earlier, authorities said Solidarity could form individual chapters in plants, but would not be allowed a regional structure, a stand that obstructed the talks.

"We have grounds to be bigger optimists than before," said Solidarity spokesman Janusz Onysiewicz. "A consensus was reached on the fundamental issues. It seems that the problem of re-legalisation of Solidarity was settled."

But a Solidarity negotiator, Tadeusz Mazowiecki, cautioned: "We cannot speak about a breakthrough yet, but it was a considerable step forward."

Solidarity was formed in 1980 and banned in 1982 following martial law and a wave of worker unrest. It was granted de facto recognition by the government in the past year.


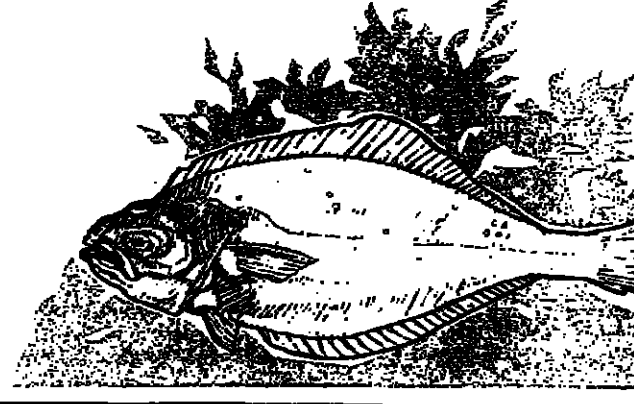
Exhibition reopens in Beijing

BEIJING, Feb 17, (AP): A controversial exhibition of avant-garde art reopened today under tight security after police closed it two days ago because of a bomb threat.

The show was closed on Feb 5, the day it opened, for five days when artists defied a ban on performance art and a woman fired

two bullets into her sculpture.


Uniformed guards patrolled the three floors of the China art gallery today as crowds of mostly young people gathered in front of the paintings and sculptures. Guards were posted at the main gate of the museum and no bags or large parcels were allowed inside.

Halibut

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Burma announces election timetable

RANGOON, Feb 17, (UPI): Burma's Election Commission announced a detailed, 14-month timetable leading to the country's first multi-party elections in more than 30 years.

Consultations with the ruling military junta on a new election law are set to be completed by Feb 24 to provide for "holding free and fair multi-party democratic general elections, as wanted by the people," the Election Commission said in an announcement broadcast by government radio. Burma's military rulers seized power last Sept 18.

The announcement said the 14-month timetable would begin once the consultations ended, with voting expected in April or May, 1990. No firm date for the election was given.

draft

The United States and several other nations have said the holding of fair elections was the main condition for the resumption of much-needed foreign aid to Burma.

Japan, the largest donor, reacted to the announcement of the election timetable by saying it was prepared to resume aid "at an appropriate time."

The Election Commission said the draft election law would be published for comments by the political parties and people, before being passed by the People's Assembly, which was elected under the former one-party government of Gen. Ne Win.

The announcement set schedules to compile electoral rolls, train poll personnel, print ballots and complete other tasks prior to the beginning of a three-month campaign.

It did not give any indication when restrictions on public gatherings would be lifted or when the parties would be allowed access to the news media, which is entirely government controlled.

More than 180 political parties have registered for the polls, but many groups are expected to join together or to dissolve themselves.

Diplomats in Rangoon have said a grouping of parties allied with the National League for Democracy, a party pushing for full democracy and an open economic system, is believed to be leading the other parties in popularity, including the former ruling party.

Thai bid to legalise sex trade

BANGKOK, Feb 17, (Reuters): Women's groups reacted angrily to a government minister's proposal to legalise prostitution, which provides a living for about 700,000 women and is a key element in Thailand's flourishing tourism industry.

Women's interest groups said Interior Minister Pramarn Adireksarn's suggestion would encourage prostitution and that instead existing laws against the sex trade should be strictly enforced.

Pramarn told reporters: "It's time to have prostitutes registered so legal measures can be drawn up to control and protect people engaged in the service."

Male and female prostitutes working at the hundreds of bars, massage parlours and clubs in Bangkok, the beach resort of Pattaya and elsewhere have played a key role in rapidly developing tourism in this South-East Asian nation.

Health experts warned last month the killer disease was already rampant among Thailand's estimated half a million heroin addicts and said prostitutes were ripe for an AIDS onslaught.

Islamabad massing artillery in Afghanistan: Vorontsov

Soviet Union warns Pakistan

NEW DELHI, Feb 17, (Agencies): Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Yuri Vorontsov today accused Pakistan of deploying artillery in Afghanistan and warned that Moscow could not remain indifferent if Pakistan intervened militarily to back Afghan rebels.

He accused Pakistan of deploying artillery with rebel forces surrounding the eastern Afghan city of Jalalabad, a charge Pakistan denies.

"The Pakistanis have the artillery pieces there, manned by their military personnel," Vorontsov, who is also the Soviet ambassador to Kabul, told a news conference in New Delhi.

He said the guns were not in use, but added: "When they start using them you will see what our reaction is going to be."

He refused to say if the Soviet Union, which withdrew its last troops from Afghanistan on Wednesday, would launch air strikes from its territory against mujahideen rebels.

He also declined to say if Moscow would send troops back into Afghanistan if Pakistan intervened or the Kabul government of President Najibullah was close to collapse.

Shura

Meanwhile, Afghan rebel council today started to work out an interim government it hopes will take power in Kabul following the departure of Soviet troops.

But delegates to the council, or shura, which opened a week ago and was meant to last no more than three days, said many hurdles remained in the way of unity.

The way was cleared for work on the government, which many rebels and their Western backers hope will help end the bloody Afghan war quickly, when a leading moderate guerrilla group ended a boycott.

Delegates said the Pakistan-based Afghan National Liberation Front (ANLF) ended its boycott over how many shura seats should be given to eight

Tehran-based groups because they feared fundamentalists might win approval for their proposed interim government leader.

The end of the boycott appeared to leave the Iran-based groups out in the cold. They have said they would not recognise any shura decision taken in their absence, an attitude that would undermine the authority of any interim government approved.

Peace

President Najib today said he has sent emissaries to Afghanistan's former king and that his government has contacted resistance forces and speculated that peace could soon come to the country.

"Maybe weeks," Najib said when asked by Western reporters whether peace would be coming in days or months. The reporters questioned Najib at a mosque, where he and about 60 security guards had gone to worship.

Thousands of other capital residents also went to mosques

today, which was markedly quieter than the previous day when Afghan officials reported rebel attacks on Kabul and other cities that killed at least 12 people.

The rebels have been reported to be advancing on major cities since the Soviet Union on Wednesday withdrew the last of its troops.

Najib did not elaborate on his statements that the former king and the resistance had been contacted.

Afghanistan's last king, Mohammad Zahir Shah, was deposed in 1973 but is seen by many as the only Afghan leader who might be able to bridge party, tribal and ethnic lines to unite a majority of the country into a workable government.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev has sent a personal appeal to US President George Bush for co-operation in achieving a settlement to the Afghan conflict. Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Bessmertnykh said today.

Aoun vows to wipe out Christian militia

BEIRUT, Feb 17, (AP): Army commander Gen. Michel Aoun threatened today to unleash an "apocalypse" to wipe out the Lebanese Forces Christian militia if it refuses to accept his authority.

Aoun, who also heads the Christian cabinet in Lebanon's dual government, told a news conference, "we are responsible for the state, and they want a mini-state. Those who do not abide by the law, I'll crush their heads."

Aoun's tough stance sharpened fears that more fighting could erupt between his 20,000 troops and 6,000-strong Lebanese Forces militia.

A ceasefire was agreed on Wednesday after fierce clashes earlier in the week around Christian East Beirut left 69 people dead and 197 wounded, according to police count.

Aoun said he accepted the ceasefire mediated by the Maronite Catholic patriarch Nasrallah Sfeir so that efforts could be made to "resolve the problem peacefully."

In Washington, Defence Department officials said up to 16 employees of the American embassy were evacuated to Cyprus. A Defence Department employee, speaking on condition of anonymity, said about 25 remained working in the embassy.

Witnesses at Larnaca airport saw three helicopters carrying Americans land. The embassy has been caught in the cross-fire in the fighting, State Department spokesman Charles Redman said recently.

Anti-US protests planned in S. Korea

SEOUL, Feb 17, (AP): The nation's largest dissident alliance announced today a 10-day period of nationwide anti-US, anti-government protests to culminate with the visit of US President George Bush.

The United National Democratic Movement of Korea, which claims membership of about 200 radical and dissident organisations, said rallies and protests would be held nationwide to denounce Bush's visit, scheduled for Feb 27.

The alliance said on the day Bush arrives, dissidents, radical students, workers and farmers will demonstrate in front of the US embassy and the US Information Service in Seoul and at American military bases throughout the country.

Meanwhile, the National Federation of Agricultural Cooperatives, a major farmers' organisation recognised by the government, vowed to start a

campaign to boycott US agricultural products such as beef and tobacco.

The protests also coincide with the first anniversary of the inauguration of South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo on Feb 25 and comes at a time of steadily increasing anti-Americanism throughout South Korea.

Radical students have held rallies this week in Seoul and the provincial cities of Kwangju and Kusan, chanting "Yankies go home," "Oppose Bush's visit," and "US stop meddling in Korean affairs."

Bush is scheduled to visit Seoul for about four hours after attending the funeral of Japanese Emperor Hirohito in Tokyo and visiting Beijing.

Lee Bu-Yong, co-chairman of the dissident alliance, told a news conference today Bush's trip was designed to bolster the "repressive, dictatorial regime" of South Korean President Roh Tae-Woo.

Senior Pakistani police officer killed in shootout

ISLAMABAD, Feb 17, (AP): A ranking police official died and a former provincial assembly speaker was wounded when an argument led to a shootout in the high ranking police officer's home, the official news agency reported today.

The agency, Associated Press of Pakistan, said the incident occurred last night in Abbottabad in the North West Frontier Province.

The agency said the dispute, which it did not specify, involved Hazara district police Inspector-

General Mazhar Sher, former NWFP assembly speaker Raja Aminullah Khan and a man identified only as Ashraf Khan.

Ashraf opened fire, fatally wounding Sher, the agency said. Aminullah also was wounded but it did not say by whom. Police reportedly arrested Ashraf and recovered his pistol.

APP said a large number of police personnel and civilians attended a funeral service for Sher this morning in Abbottabad, about 40 miles (65 kms) north of the Pakistan capital.

Turkey admits torture

ANKARA, Feb 17, (Reuters): Turkey has said 32 prisoners were tortured to death or died of more than 130 who died in prison since 1980, according to an official report quoted by the Turkish Daily News.

The newspaper today quoted the report as saying 10 of 144 people Amnesty International said died mysteriously in custody during the period were still alive.

The remaining 102 committed suicide, starved themselves to death or died from disease and "confrontations with guards," it added.

"In the light of Amnesty International's claims of torture in Turkey, a list of the people who

have died in prison has been sent to Amnesty International last week," a Foreign Ministry official said.

The London-based human rights group said in January that 229 men and women had died in custody in Turkey over nearly eight years but it had received no explanation for 144 of the deaths.

It said Turkey's human rights record since an Army coup in 1980 was appalling and there had been no apparent attempt to rectify it.

The official report by the Turkish authorities was sent to its missions abroad, the ministry official said.

Lover of Hudson gets \$14.5m award

LOS ANGELES, Feb 17, (Reuters): A jury has awarded \$14.5 million in damages to the former homosexual lover of Rock Hudson, who claimed the late actor concealed that he had AIDS in order to continue their sexual relationship.

A superior court jury in Los Angeles ruled that Hudson was guilty of "outrageous conduct" in continuing to have sex with Marc Christian for several months after he was diagnosed as suffering from AIDS in June 1984.

As a result, Christian, who has so far tested negative for the fatal disease, suffered extreme emotional distress after he eventually found out Hudson had AIDS in July 1985.

Christian, 35, filed the lawsuit against Hudson's estate and personal secretary.

Ex-official held in Japan's share scandal

TOKYO, Feb 17, (UPI): Japan's snowballing insider trading scandal spread to the government today when prosecutors arrested a former bureaucrat and searched his home and government offices.

The Tokyo district prosecutor's office said Shigeru Kano, 55, former director of the Labour Ministry's employment service division, was detained today on suspicion of taking bribes.

Kano, who quit the ministry in June 1986, was the seventh official to be held in the scandal involving Recruit Co., a major information and publishing firm, and its affiliates.

Kano was detained after two days of questioning by prosecutors in connection with the scandal, the biggest to hit Japan's political and business communities in more than a decade.

Kano was alleged to have leaked the Labour Ministry's

confidential information to Recruit officials while being entertained at restaurants, bars and golfing sessions on 39 occasions between March 1984 and November 1985.

He served as head of the employment service division from 1982 to 1985. He quit the ministry after serving as head of the ministry's labour training centre.

Information

News reports said Kano passed to Recruit officials the ministry's confidential draft of a bill aimed at tightening control of job-placement magazines.

A former parliamentary labour minister was implicated in the scandal. Recruit publishes several magazines of employment information.

Two executives of Recruit company, including Masahiro Ezoe, 56, founder and former chairman of Recruit Co., were arrested Monday.

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Amir to open engineering conference today

KUWAIT, Feb 17, (KUNA): HH the Amir will inaugurate the 18th Engineering Conference at Bayan Palace tomorrow.

The conference, sponsored by the Kuwait Engineering Society in co-operation with the Arab Engineers Society, is expected to group over 1500 engineers from all over the Arab world.

The conference will shed light on three main issues, namely enhancing the reality of Arab engineering education to realise self-sufficiency, the Arab engineer and modern technologies and Arab engineering integration.

The 18th conference will witness the return of Egypt, which will take part at this gathering with a high-level delegation, including head of the Egyptian Engineers Union and former Deputy Premier Othman Ahmed Othman, former Housing Director Ahmed Muharam and top figures in the field.

Tour

On the other hand, nearly 700 participants arrived here yesterday, as the rest are due here today.

During their stay, the delegates will enjoy a sight-seeing tour of Kuwait's various attractions, including the Entertainment City, the Waterfront and the Construction and Engineers exhibition held at the International Fairgrounds in Mishref area.

Saud Al Saqer, the head of the informational committee said that a televised programme focusing on the engineering profession will be televised on the occasion.

Stamp

KTV will also be interviewing a number of engineers and establishments who will be participating in the conference. A daily bulletin related to the activities and meetings of the conference will be issued including a daily programme to be transmitted by television and radio.

The Ministry of Communications has issued a postal stamp to commemorate the holding of the conference in Kuwait. The stamp will be distributed as a gift to all participants.

Meeting

KUWAIT, Feb 17, (KUNA): Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Minister Khaled Ahmed Al Jassar yesterday received Maldivian Education Minister Mohammed Zaher Hussein.

The two ministers discussed bilateral relations and means of boosting them.

Iran-Kuwait flights may be resumed

NICOSIA, Feb 17, (AP): The state carriers of Iran and Kuwait are discussing the possible resumption of flights between the two countries, the official Islamic Republic News Agency reported yesterday.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted Mohammad Reza Sheikh Emami, head of the Iran Air office in Kuwait, as saying that Iran would like to resume flights between Kuwait and several Iranian cities, including Tehran and Shiraz.

Kuwait Airways is considering re-starting flights to Tehran, Abadan and Khuzestan, Emami was quoted as saying.

But Emami gave no indication

as to when the flights might resume.

Iran Air halted flights to Kuwait and other Gulf states shortly after the outbreak of the war with Iraq in September 1980.

Kuwait came close to direct involvement in the conflict after Iran fired missiles at its shipping in the Gulf, citing its support for Iraq. Iran also was blamed for a series of terrorist attacks in Kuwait during the war.

Relations between Iran and many Gulf states have improved following a UN-sponsored ceasefire that halted the war last Aug 20, as Tehran ended years of self-isolation and started promoting regional ties.

Pre-independence Kuwait exhibition at science club

KUWAIT, Feb 17, (KUNA): The National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters has received an invitation from the Kuwait Science Club to participate in organising a photo-exhibition for shots of pre-independence Kuwait.

A responsible source at the council said that the Feb 20-22 exhibition will be under the supervision of the League of Cars and Motorcycles Amateurs and will be held at the club's headquarters.

Noting that the exhibition was meant to coincide with the coun-

try's celebrations of its 28th National Day which falls on Feb 25, the source pointed out that a motored of old vehicles will be organised on the first day of the exhibition.

He said that the fair will include old vehicles, house utensils used by Kuwaitis before independence and documentaries depicting Science Club activities and other civilisational features of Kuwait before and after independence.

He noted that a race for motorcycles will be held next Friday.

Kuwaiti medical delegation to attend conference in Iraq

KUWAIT, Feb 17, (KUNA): A Kuwaiti medical delegation is due to leave here on Sunday for Baghdad to participate in the meetings of the higher council, the general secretariat and the 25th conference of Arab Physicians' Association.

Kuwaiti Medical Society's (KMS), Secretary-General Dr Badr Abdul Wahab Hamada told KUNA that besides attending the meetings scheduled for

Sunday, the KMS' delegation would also take part in the 25th congress of the Iraqi Medical Society that would convene from Feb 21 to 23.

The delegation would also discuss means of boosting KMS' bonds with the Iraqi Medical Society and exchange of scientific researches and visits as well as enhancing bilateral co-ordination in various fields, Hamada said.

Mellor meets UAE deputy premier

ABUDHABI, Feb 17, (KUNA): United Arab Emirates Deputy Premier Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed met Wednesday night with British Minister of Health David Mellor, during which discussions focused on bilateral relations.

Discussions between the two officials also tackled issues of mutual concern topped by the

Middle East crisis and ways of escalating the convocation of an international peace conference.

Meanwhile, the British minister met with head of the UAE Presidential Diwan Sheikh Sorour Bin Mohammed, where he handed him a message from the Queen of England Elizabeth II, to UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan.

Kuwait-Iran relations progressing normally

Iran-Iraq peace will boost regional security: Shaheen

KUWAIT, Feb 17, (KUNA): Foreign Ministry Undersecretary Sulaiman Majed Al Shaheen has said development of relations between the GCC member states and Iran will depend on the progress of Iraq-Iran peace negotiations.

Shaheen was talking to a group of foreign journalists who are visiting Kuwait on the occasion of the 28th anniversary of the National Day.

He said Kuwaiti-Iranian relations were progressing normally in the political and diplomatic domains, saying the two countries' embassies were open "and we exchange views and conduct consultations on some matters."

He indicated that Iran had shown response towards improving relations with Saudi Arabia and the rest of the GCC member states adding that normalisation of relations between Iraq and Iran will boost security and stability in the region.

Atmosphere

He said the GCC supports the UN Security Council Resolution 598 and pays due concern to good relations with other countries.

Shaheen affirmed keenness to establish lasting and comprehensive peace in the region pointing out to the existing favourable international atmosphere particularly between the Soviet Union and the United States.

He noted that the Crown Prince and Premier Sheikh Saad



Sulaiman Majed Al Shaheen
Al Abdullah's recent visit to Iraq was successful and fruitful. He said the two sides also agreed to boost co-operation in the fields of trade, economy, investment and joint ventures.

He highlighted the positive atmosphere and the good results reached by the Arab League's Committee on the Lebanese question which is chaired by Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad.

The foreign ministry undersecretary stressed the importance of holding the international peace conference on the Middle East pledging Kuwait's and other Arab countries support to the conference.

He said the international atmosphere is conducive to hold the conference and come out with resolutions that will maintain the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and achieve

just, lasting and comprehensive peace.

Regarding the question of Afghanistan, Shaheen said Kuwait, in its capacity as current chairman of the Organisation of Islamic Conference, and in collaboration with other Islamic countries are seeking a just solution to the Afghan problem.

He said Kuwait had made contacts with Soviet officials and the Afghan mujahedeen with the aim of reaching a genuine peace agreement that will maintain Afghanistan's independence and satisfy all the Afghan people. He expressed hope that the Afghan people would reach agreement among themselves without foreign interference.

Umbrella

He described the Non-Aligned Movement as "a good umbrella to realise the dreams of the Third World countries and stand between the two super blocs."

Shaheen noted that Kuwait maintains cordial relations with a number of countries in the Eastern bloc, the West, the Islamic world and the Non-Aligned Movement.

Shaheen wished Pakistan's Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto every success, saying her assumption of that leading post was capable of pushing forward the feminist movement in the orient.

Saudi Arabia pays PLO \$14.25 million

NICOSIA, Feb 17, (Reuters): Saudi Arabia has paid the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) the final \$14.25 million of \$850.5 million promised 10 years ago, a PLO official said yesterday.

Saudi Arabia and other oil-rich states vowed at an Arab summit in 1979 to support the PLO and frontline countries with Israel for 10 years but the official said the kingdom was the only state to fully meet its pledge.

King Fahd has in addition granted the PLO \$6.02 million a month for 1989 to finance the 14-month-old Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, the Riyadh-based official said.

Sabah messages

KUWAIT, Feb 17, (KUNA): Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah yesterday sent messages to foreign ministers of the five permanent members of the Security Council on the Arab League Six-man Committee on Lebanon, which he chairs, it was officially announced here.

An official Kuwaiti source told KUNA that Sheikh Sabah's messages related to the committee's meetings held in Tunis last month with Lebanese officials, along with current preparations for receiving Lebanese spiritual leaders in Kuwait later this month.

He hoped that the five foreign ministers would shoulder their responsibilities towards the security and stability of Lebanon.

Manual on education

THE Assistant Undersecretary for Planning and Development Rasheed Al Hamad was quoted as saying that a new manual on national education is to be compiled soon.

In an interview with a local daily, Hamad said that a special committee has been formed to achieve this purpose. The proposed manual will be added to the third intermediate class curricula.

Palestinian military attacks against Israel counter-productive, says Waldegrave

MANANA, Feb 17, (UPI): A senior British cabinet minister urged Palestinian groups yesterday to abandon military attacks against Israel because they were counter-productive.

"They haven't done any good to the (Palestine Liberation Organisation) in the past... there is nothing to be gained and a lot to be lost," said William Waldegrave, Britain's minister of state for foreign affairs.

"I urge the PLO not to get involved in militarily pointless (attacks)," said Waldegrave who

BAHRAIN DIGEST

New charitable foundation to help needy in Bahrain

A NEW charitable foundation, the first of its kind sponsored and supported by a leading private business organisation in Bahrain, has been launched to serve the island's poor and needy population.

Ahmedi Foundation has been established by Ahmedi Industries, one of the country's food and beverage giants and the distributors and makers of a famous cola drink.

Under the chairmanship of Sheikhha Luwa Bint Shaikh Mohammed Abdullah Al Khalifa, the new foundation aims to render financial as well as material assistance basically to individuals suffering any form of hardship.

Addressing a press conference Ali Ahmedi, managing director of Ahmedi Industries, stressed that the foundation will back particularly major projects involving people unable to afford education, major medical treatment, housing and suffering other financial hardships.

He said the group, which has been donating about BD60,000 to charitable causes in Bahrain devised the idea of helping the poor through an appropriate channel.

Pioneer

"We approached Sheikhha Luwa to form the foundation because of her pioneering role in social work in Bahrain for nearly 35 years and primarily because of her extensive knowledge of people who require help desperately," he added.

According to Ahmedi the new foundation will receive the bulk of funds from a specific amount set aside from the sale of each Ahmedi Industries product ranging from soft drinks to dairy products. He said the amount to be decided will be based on the volume of sales and appealed to all Ahmedi consumers to support and contribute to the foundation by buying more of the products concerned.

"It will not cost the consumer anything extra as the normal retail price will be enforced. I only ask them to increase consumption as the extra revenue will go to a worthy cause," emphasised Ahmedi.

According to Hadi Al Alawi, chairman and managing director of Arab Advertising Agency, an extensive media campaign has been scheduled to highlight the Ahmedi Foundation.

Meanwhile, Bank of Bahrain and Kuwait, has become the first outside donor to the foundation.

Ahmedi Foundation will operate from its new base in Ahmedi Industries premises at Zinj. A new committee to run the organisation will be formed soon, headed by Sheikhha Luwa.

Kuwait will continue to boost national cadres: Awadi

LONDON, Feb 17, (KUNA): Kuwaiti Minister of Planning Dr Abdul Rahman Al Awadi asserted here today that Kuwait will continue to implement its policy of security and social balance between nationals and expatriates.

Awsat, said despite budget deficit the government would not halt its services plan.

The country's five-year development plan will continue its achievement of national goals, administrative and technical developments and boosting capabilities of national cadres, he added.

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Members of this group represent manufacturers and exporters of a wide range of top-quality competitively priced products, such as household products, kitchen utensils, tableware, electronics and electrical items and accessories, readymade garments, toys, telephones, gift items, batteries, bicycles, stationery, school bags & supplies, watches, video tapes, fluorescent lanterns and much more.

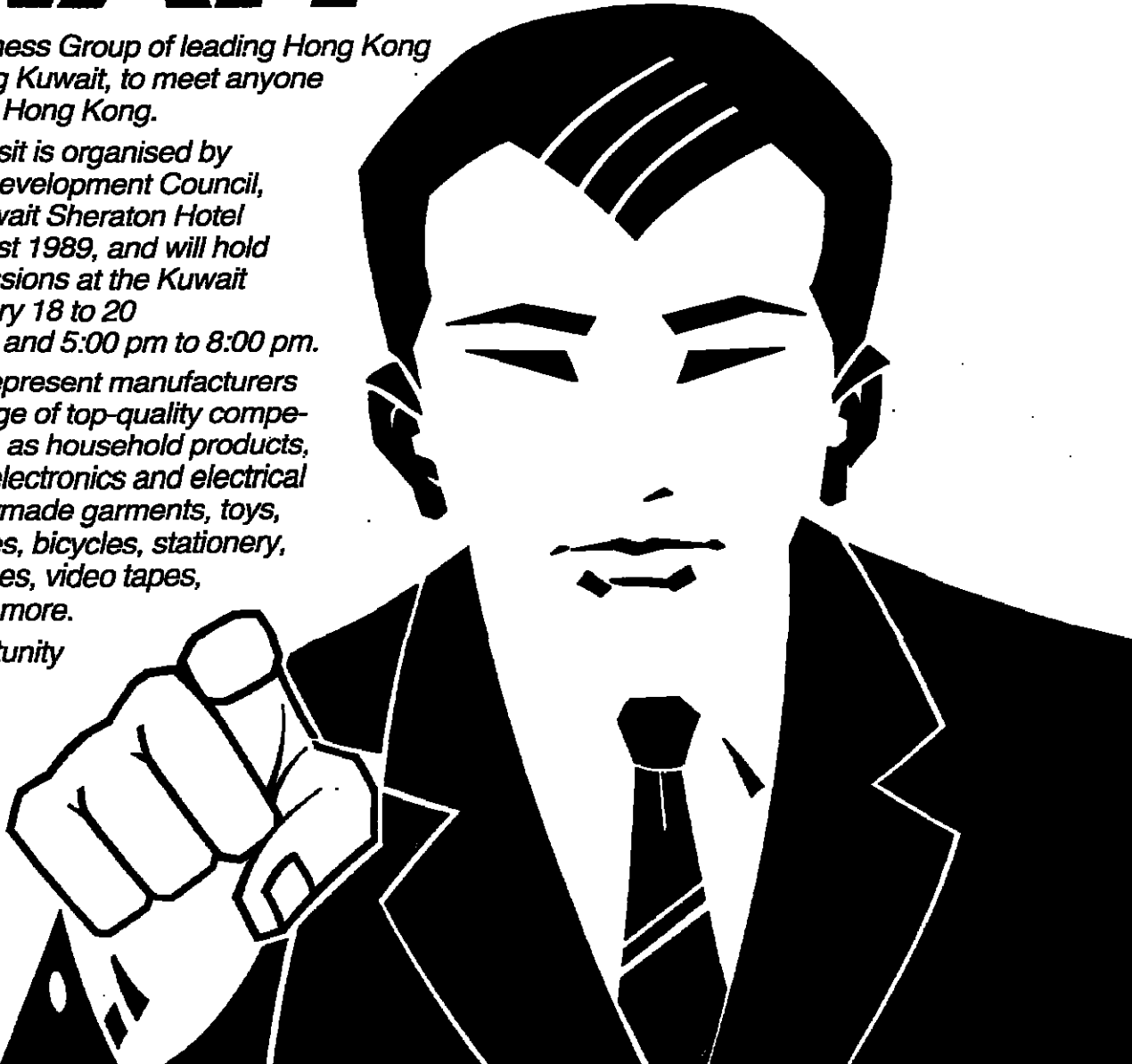
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Education minister's assailant dies of extensive burns

Arab Times report

ABDUL Aziz Khurshed, the alleged assailant of Anwar Abdullah Al Nouri, Kuwait's minister of education, died in the intensive care unit of the Mubarak Al Kabir Hospital as a result of extensive burns said to be self-inflicted in an apparent suicide attempt after hitting the minister with a hatchet, official sources said.

Nouri was quoted yesterday as saying he was attacked after trying to solve his assailant's problems.

The minister's brother Mohammed, who was severely burnt in his attempt to save Khurshed is still undergoing treatment in hospital.

Nouri said he was playing cards at the home of Finance Minister Jassim Mohammed Al

Khorafi on Tuesday when he was attacked.

"Everything was normal and we were playing and laughing... suddenly without us knowing he (Khurshed) left the room for a few minutes... I think he went to his car to bring a hatchet," he said.

Blow

"All of a sudden I felt a blow to the back of my head and I lifted my right hand to avoid the second blow and it struck my upper hand."

After the attack, Khurshed doused his robe with petrol and set himself on fire.

Nouri said he did not understand why Khurshed attacked him. "I don't know the reason. He was a friend and the (finance) minister and I were trying to help him solve all of his problems," he said.

Civil Service Commission invites recommendations

THE Assistant Undersecretary for Administrative Development and head of the special team for sorting out of existing functional overlapping at the Civil Service Commission Dr Naser Jassem Al Sane has said that the work team sent official letters to the social welfare societies, unions of businessmen in the country inviting their recommendations on the best approach for sorting out existing functional duplication.

He said that the team welcomed any research, studies or recommendations contributed by scholars or researchers to provide scientific recommendations to solve this problem. Such contributions should be made in writing and sent to the Civil Service Commission headquarters.

He said that the work team, which was formed by a special cabinet decision, was proceeding with its mission in line with a carefully thought-out integrated

plan aimed at executing sought objectives at the specified time schedule.

A meeting had been held under the chairmanship of the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs and Acting Chairman of the Civil Service Council Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashed in the presence of representatives from government ministries and departments to discuss ways to ensure optimum execution of the plan.

He said that discussion at the meeting dealt with assignments undertaken by the team and the implications of functional duplication. The team had so far held as many as 20 different meetings with 30 representatives of various government agencies.

The team had been formed into three working sub-groups and assigned them varying legal, follow-up and organisational missions to pursue with the relevant government authorities, Al Sane said.

New public enquiry system at Kuwait Airport soon

A NEW system to answer public enquiries of timing of incoming and outgoing flights at Kuwait International Airport is to be introduced by the Civil Aviation Authority, according to an official source.

The new system will not be connected to the present tele-

phone system at the airport. The new system will include 20 telephone lines. The present system will continue to be operational until the new system is installed.

A number of new cadres specially trained will operate the new system, the official said.



Assistant Undersecretary for Private Education Dr Yacoub Al Sharrar presided at the Annual Prize Distribution Day of the New Indian School in Kuwait. The prize distribution took place on Thursday Feb 16 at the Indian Arts Circle in Funaites.

Kuwaiti-US relations excellent despite a difference of opinion on certain issues

US will continue to supply arms to mujahedeen: Howell

By Jadranka Porter

UNITED STATES arms supplies to Afghan guerrillas will continue so long as the government forces in Kabul can draw on stockpiles left behind by the Soviets, the US Ambassador to Kuwait, Nathaniel Howell said.

"The US will continue to supply arms to the mujahedeen (Afghan guerrilla fighters), so long as those people in Kabul have a large supply (of arms) supplied by the other side," Howell said in an interview with the Arab Times.

The US President George Bush, on Thursday rejected a Soviet call for an embargo on arms shipments to Afghanistan because, he said, the Russians had left behind a huge stockpile of weapons. Howell said that when the agreement on the Soviet withdrawal was reached the US was prepared for both sides to stop supplying arms.

But that was not acceptable to all the participants on the Soviet side, he said.

Domination

Bush said that the US would make sure that one side in Afghanistan did not enjoy military domination over the other.

More fighting seemed inevitable if "they (government forces) continue to sit in Kabul," Howell said. But he also indicated that once a new government is installed in Kabul the US might stop the arms supplies to Afghanistan.



US Ambassador Nathaniel Howell (right) visited the Arab Times offices recently. He is seen here with Ahmed Al Jarallah (left).

"We don't want to stoke conflict in Afghanistan once they have liberated it," he said.

Howell did not foresee any immediate changes in the US policy in the Gulf after the change of administration in Washington last month.

"I don't have any different

marching orders," Howell said. He described US-Kuwaiti relations as excellent despite a difference of opinion on certain issues.

A broad agenda and a mature approach are the features of the US-Kuwaiti relationship the envoy singled out.

"Identical views are not an indication of a very deep dialogue. For a dialogue to be truly useful you have to discuss the differences," Howell said.

Ties between the US and Kuwait improved after Washington offered protection from Iranian attacks for 11 Kuwaiti

tankers.

The 11 tankers were registered in the US and have flown the US flag. These were among conditions qualifying them for US naval protection.

The Pentagon announced on Jan 20 that six Kuwaiti tankers will revert to the Kuwaiti flag.

Deflagging

Howell said there are ongoing contacts about deflagging of the six tankers but the other five tankers will continue operating under US registration and the US flag.

The US contributed to the solution of the Gulf conflict not only through its naval presence in the region but also as a prime mover behind Resolution 598 and in trying to get Iraq and Iran to accept it, Howell said.

"We did play a role but I leave it to history and others to say how much of the credit (we deserve)," said Howell.

Discussing US-PLO relations Howell said it was a change in circumstances rather than in the US policy which facilitated the ongoing dialogue. The US began a dialogue with the PLO after its Chairman Yasser Arafat accepted Israel's existence and renounced terrorism.

Solution

The US is disturbed by the human rights situation in Israel and views it as a problem in finding a solution, Howell said. He expressed hope that groups in Israel, interested in finding a solution, would look at the US-

PLO dialogue as a boost to the peace process.

He said the US had made clear its support for Arab League efforts to help solve the Lebanese crisis.

Kuwait's Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed heads a committee of six Arab foreign ministers given the task of reconciling factions in Lebanon.

"They deserve all the support and encouragement we can muster," said Howell.

Efforts

"It takes a great deal of courage to risk your reputation in trying to deal with it (the Lebanese crisis)," he said referring to the complexity of Lebanon's long-standing problems.

He agreed with the Arab League team's assessment that only the Lebanese themselves can solve the crisis they are facing. "Others can help but they cannot substitute for the Lebanese to solve their problem," said Howell.

He stressed that the US will pursue efforts to solve regional conflicts but there will be differences of emphasis. This does not mean that the US will not keep its commitments, Howell said. "The President of the US has a very big plate, and he has to deal with all of these areas," said Howell. "I am sure there are areas that thought that they were being shortchanged in our interest when we concentrated to a large extent on ending the Iraq-Iran war."

Waldegrave returns to Britain

MANAMA, Feb 17. (KUNA): British Foreign Office Minister William Waldegrave left here for home today at the end of a two-day visit to Bahrain, in the course of a tour that took him to Iraq, Kuwait and Bahrain.

During his visit here, Waldegrave had talks with ranking officials dealt with bilateral relations and ways of fostering them in different fields, particularly economy, trade and education as well as developments in the Arabian Gulf following the end of the Iran-Iraq war.

The visit also tackled the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories and the holding of the international peace conference.

Waldegrave met yesterday with Bahraini Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa.

Sheikh Mohammed praised the new British stance in respect to opening channels of dialogue with the PLO, and calling for the convocation of an international peace conference on the Middle East.

Bahraini-British talks tackled the situation in the Arabian Gulf and means on backing efforts directed at establishing peace in this strategic waterway, particularly the implementation of UN Resolution 598.

Earlier Waldegrave conferred with the Amir of Bahrain Sheikh Issa Bin Salman Al Khalifa and his Prime Minister Sheikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa on international and other issues of mutual concern to the two countries.

Waldegrave arrived here Wednesday night from Kuwait in the last leg of three Arab countries tour which he started with Iraq.

Arab League committee only an auxiliary factor: Sabah

RIVADH, Feb 17. (KUNA): Kuwait Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed said here today the Arab League committee on Lebanon has reached a draft plan for solving the Lebanese crisis.

Sabah, in statements to Saudi press editors in chief published by "Okaz" daily, noted the six-man Arab committee is only an "auxiliary factor" in settling the 14-year-old crisis, hoping that the draft plan would be accepted by all parties concerned.

The committee, he added, is not concerned with foreign parties involved in the conflict and

centres its efforts instead on the Lebanese factions to examine their views.

If the committee failed its task, the whole issue will then be referred to the Arab League's ministerial council to decide what is to be done, he said.

Sheikh Sabah said the committee's second phase of action shall be meeting with Lebanese spiritual leaders and will be succeeded with a meeting between the committee and the Lebanese politicians.

In reply to a question, the minister said Kuwait welcomes any Arab gathering in favour of the Arab nation.

Acquittal

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court acquitted a 60-year old man accused of attempted rape and strangulation of a 15-year old boy.

The court took its decision based on the coroner's report which confirmed the absence of incriminating evidence.

Smuggling

A MAN was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment by the Criminal Court.

The defendant, Munir A. attempted to smuggle a piece of hashish into the country, in his bag, for his own use.

He was convicted by the Public Prosecution Office.

21 Sri Lankan workers acquitted of forgery charges

KUWAIT'S Criminal Court acquitted 21 Sri Lankan workers accused of forging their passports and work permits.

The court was told that each of the accused paid 30,000 rupees to a man in Sri Lanka to obtain their work permits and passports. The court was also informed that the accused were told that they would be received by the man's agent at Kuwait airport to facilitate their entry into

the country and would be employed for KD55 each month. Security at the immigration department at Kuwait's airport discovered the forgeries and arrested all the accused.

The court based its judgement that none of the accused knew the Arab language to read the documents and their intention to deliberately fake their documents could not be established.

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Various projects in Hawally

THE Governor of Hawally Abdul Latif Mohammad Al Barjis has said that the governorate's prime concern is the construction of various projects to serve different needs of citizens.

He said that these projects include public gardens in different locations, the construction of mosques, landscaping streets and public places, the provision of signs in district and internal roads, the provision of maintenance services for existing public facilities, including sewers.

Lunar eclipse

OJAIRI Observatory has announced that a lunar eclipse will be seen in Kuwait on the night of Feb 20. The observatory said that the eclipse will be total and will be seen soon after sunset. The total eclipse will end at about 7.15 pm while the shadow will totally disappear from the moon at 9.40. The phenomenon will be clearly seen.

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 3. Al-Balad Supermarket, Fahadhel Wednesdays 4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.
 4. EDEE General Store, Salamiya Saturdays 4.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. Tel. 5635862
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ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

A MAN is not old until regrets take the place of dreams
— John Barrymore, US actor (1882-1942).

Uneasiness over money-making activity

US ex-presidents cash in on their fame

By W. Dale Nelson

WASHINGTON, (AP): There is ample precedent for Ronald Reagan to make millions of dollars off his memoirs, but the money-making activity of former presidents is still a sore subject with many Americans.

It was, in fact, a basis for Congress' decision more than 30 years ago to grant pensions and office allowances to former occupants of the White House. The idea, according to a Senate committee report issued in 1966, was to "ensure that former presidents can live dignified retired lives free from the need to 'commercialize' and demean their status as elder statesmen."

Nevertheless, before and since the law was passed, past presidents have profited, sometimes handsomely, from writing, speaking and taping business connections.

Presidential scholars are divided on the propriety of Reagan receiving a reported advance of \$5 million for his memoirs and a book of speeches, and for signing a reported \$50,000-a-speech contract with a lecture agency.

"He should not make one dime for writing a book of what he did as president, or for speaking. That's what I think," said political scientist James David Barber of Duke University, a leading student of the US presidency.

Wrong
But Daniel P. Franklin, a political scientist and expert on the presidency at Colgate University, said, "I frankly don't see anything wrong with President Reagan writing a book and getting some money. We tend to hold our politicians to, in some case, unrealistic standards."

"I think what it shows is that the ex-president is still seen as a symbol and there is an idea that in some way the symbolic nature of the presidency is compromised just by virtue of his accepting monetary gain," Franklin said.

Former President Ulysses S. Grant, who served from 1869 to 1877, received \$500,000 for his memoirs of the US civil war. His two-volume work is considered a classic war commentary.

"As a matter of fact, he was a much better autobiographer than he was a president," said Franklin.

When President Harry Truman left the White House in 1953, he wrote in his memoirs that he had turned down lucrative offers from industry because "I knew that they were not interested in himing Harry Truman, the person, but what they wanted to hire was the former president of the United States. I could never lend myself to any transaction, however res-

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The minute went on to say that the decree was adopted by the Council of People's Deputies with only Stalin voting against.

"This little-known fact testifies to the fact that Stalin went through a grotesque change in his development," Volkogonov declared. "He was not always a vampire."

He contrasted that occasion with an incident in 1937 at the height of the mass show trials from 1936-38 which sent thousands of people, including many of the leaders of the revolution, to their deaths.

"On Dec 12 1937 he (Stalin) and (Prime Minister Vyacheslav) Molotov sanctioned the executions of 3,167 people and then went to the cinema in the evening."

Glasnost
In recent months there has been a wave of historical articles on the Stalin era, published under Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev's policy of "glasnost" (openness) and in line with his promise to fill "blank spots" in Soviet history.

Their publication has been accompanied by the emergence of a new anti-Stalinist movement, led by some of the country's leading historians and cultural figures, demanding recognition for his victims and safeguards for the future.

pectable, that would commercialize on the prestige and the dignity of the office of the presidency."

However, Truman did sell the rights to his memoirs to a US magazine for \$600,000.

Allowance
With Truman's experience in mind, Congress enacted legislation in 1958 giving former presidents, for the first time, pensions and an allowance for their office expenses. Reagan gets a federal pension of \$99,500 a year and an office allowance of up to \$300,000.

Richard Nixon, after his resignation from office in 1974 in the wake of the Watergate scandal, received an advance of more than \$2 million for his memoirs plus \$600,000 and a share of the profits for a series of televised interviews with British talk show host David Frost.

Nixon, like Dwight Eisenhower before him, accepts no speaking fees.

"His position is that he at least as a former president feels most comfortable speaking out only on substance and only when he thinks his doing so will help the country," said John H. Taylor, the former president's administrative assistant. "There is no implied criticism of how others do it; I am just telling you how President Nixon does it."

Unethical
To that, Duke political scientist Barber quipped: "Here you have the most unethical president of the 20th century who is being more ethical than the others."

Nixon's successor, Gerald Ford, and his wife received about \$1 million for their memoirs, and Ford was paid \$1 million by the national NBC television network to appear in documentaries and be available for television interviews over a five-year period.

Ford also had accepted offers to serve on the boards of a number of corporations or work as a consultant to others.

Former President Jimmy Carter received an undisclosed advance for his memoirs, "Keeping Faith," after a number of New York publishers were invited to meet with him.

Demand
Carter is also in demand as a speaker on college campuses. Memphis State University said it persuaded Carter to speak after offering him \$10,000 and free air fare to and from its southern US campus.

Lyndon B. Johnson donated profits estimated at \$1.5 million from his memoirs, "The Vantage Point," to support the LBJ Library in Austin and the LBJ School of Public Affairs, according to library archivist Claudia Anderson.

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Thousands of people questioned

Massive security for Hirohito's funeral

By Tetsuo Jimbo

TOKYO, (AP): To guard against threatened radical attacks, police are planning the strictest security ever in modern Japan for the late Emperor Hirohito's funeral.

Police are chartering two blimps, questioning thousands of people along the funeral route in a search for terrorists and calling in reinforcements to have 32,000 officers on hand to protect 10,000 Japanese and foreign dignitaries planning to attend the ceremonies Feb 24.

The government is allocating 2.43 billion yen (about \$18.5 million) to pay for funeral security.

"Securing foreign guests' safety is the top priority for us and for the country by all means," said an official at the national police agency, speaking on condition of anonymity. "If we let anything funny happen during the funeral, it may lead to a major diplomatic problem."

Disrupt
At least six radical groups threatened to try to disrupt the funeral because they oppose Japan's imperial system, he said.

They include the ultra-leftist Japanese Red Army, and a Marxist-Leninist guerrilla group called Chukakuha, or the Middle Core Faction, the official said.

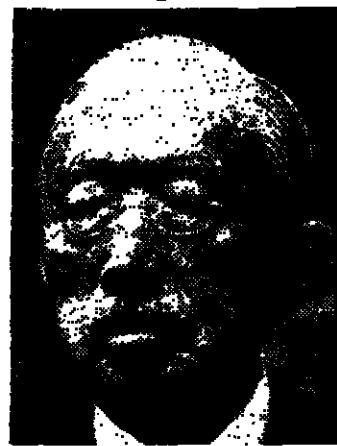
As a result of tightened security imposed after Hirohito died Jan 7, 50 radical activists have been arrested already.

US President George Bush heads the list of mourners expected from at least 134 countries sending presidents, royalty, prime ministers, foreign ministers and other officials.

"So many VIPs, heads of state, are coming from outside, and they are going to be at one place, so naturally from protocol and other points of view, we have to be doubly sure (of security)," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Taizo Watanabe.

Tokyo, a congested city of 12 million people on normal days, is expected to be paralyzed by severe traffic restrictions up to two days before the funeral as police intensify their security of vehicles.

"We may have to ask citizens to sacrifice some of their daily activities a few days before and after the funeral," said the national police official.



Emperor Hirohito

Police will ban cars from a large part of central Tokyo for up to six hours on the day of the funeral, a Friday that has been declared a holiday. Most shops, banks and department stores will be closed.

During the 1986 economic summit meeting of seven industrialized countries in Tokyo, police brought in reinforcements from the provinces and mobilized some 30,000 officers.

But a radical group succeeded in launching several home-made

mortar shells toward the meeting site. The shells flew about 4 kms (2.5 miles) but missed the target and no one was hurt.

Police were shocked by the attack, and the national official warned that today the radicals may have more advanced technology than the home-made shells fired in 1986.

"In order to prevent them from firing such bombs, we are executing security operations which won't allow a drop of water to leak," the police official said.

Tokyo residents already are feeling the tightened security, especially at hundreds of street checkpoints where police inspect vehicles at random, especially vans and trucks, and ask car drivers to open their trunks.

Open
"We will have to start asking them to open not only trunks but boxes inside the trunk as well, as the funeral nears," he said.

"Basically, what we are saying is, 'do not try to bring in any concealed material in Tokyo a few days before the funeral, or you will be asked to open each one of them.'"

People who live near the six-

kilometre (3.7-mile) route between the Imperial Palace and the park where the funeral will be held are being questioned now by police working to become familiar with the local residents — and identify anyone who appears suspicious. The procession route is an area lined primarily with office buildings and shops, but with some apartment buildings along the way.

"We are most concerned about apartment rooms rented to unidentified people because such rooms can be used to store terrorists' ammunition," the police official said.

Traffic
The funeral site, Shinjuku Imperial Gardens, has been closed and under heavy guard since two days after Hirohito's death. Workers are building a Shinto sanctuary there and two 145-metre-long (480-foot) tents to shelter the dignitaries.

Police will use two chartered blimps to help keep an aerial watch on the procession route from the palace to the gardens, and then to the imperial mausoleums 45 kms (28 miles) west of Tokyo.

To help guard bayside Haneda Airport, where many foreign dignitaries will arrive, boat traffic will be kept 2 kms (1.3 miles) offshore.

The Transport Ministry said it may ask airlines to cancel some domestic flights to reduce the congestion at Tokyo airports as planes carrying foreign dignitaries pour in.

The ministry also has asked airlines to increase luggage inspection starting Feb 20.

"We are very sensitive about the airport security because we have heard about a number of airplane explosions caused by terrorists in recent months," said Masamichi Hasebe, an official in the Transport Ministry's security section.

He said guards will open and inspect each piece of luggage — hand-carried or checked — between Feb 20 and 26. As an extra step, people without flight reservations will not be admitted to Tokyo airports during that period, he said.

"I understand it is a major problem for ordinary people," Hasebe said, "but I have to stress the point that strengthened inspection may also save their lives."



By Steve Gerstel

WASHINGTON, (UPI): Among the many uncodified laws of the Senate are two that pertain to the confirmation of the president's cabinet.

● The president has an inherent right to choose his closest advisers, barring an overwhelming reason to deny them. Although Edwin Meese sorely tested this tenet, it did not crack it.

● A sitting senator or a former colleague is deemed infallible in all matters and is automatically and eminently qualified for any cabinet post. The Senate does not reject one's own.

So what happened to John Tower?

No matter the outcome, the man chosen by President Bush to run the Pentagon, a former Texas senator, has severely strained the system.

First off, this is not a partisan issue, although some Republicans are trying to give that impression. The Democrats were not out to cut down Tower when he was nominated.

Nor was it an effort to whittle down Bush in his first weeks at the White House. Every one of Bush's nominees, confirmed so far, has been approved by unanim-

ous vote.

Undoubtedly, some senators had private reservations about Tower. In many ways he is a captive of the military — a man who served as chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, dealt with the Soviets as an arms negotiator and also laboured for the defence industry as a consultant.

Alarms
That may give him unequalled expertise in matters military but does not make him the ideal chief in a time when the Pentagon budget must be pruned and the defence industry brought under control.

Yet, as real as the concern over Tower's ability to face down the war chiefs and the board rooms should have been, that played only a minor role in the fracas over his nomination.

What set off the imbroglio was the testimony of a self-anointed keeper of the morals, Paul Weyrich, that Tower was a boozier and a womanizer.

Bush should not have nominated Tower

Armed Services Committee is unclear. Perhaps because the Senate takes pains to conceal the moral weaknesses of its own and doesn't quite know how to deal with the issue when it is confronted.

Once publicly faced with allegations — which have never been much of a secret on Capitol Hill — that Tower was a miniature Lothario with a fondness for a drink or more, the committee was in a corner.

Tower did himself no good by telling his girl friend in a post hotel eatery that he was about to "fonde" her, an amorous approach heard by Washington Post reporters nearby.

That little back-and-forth came during his confirmation hearings and once more showed Tower's innate arrogance, which undoubtedly made him an easier target from the start.

Bush probably should have never named Tower. He really didn't need that kind of a problem so early — and neither did the Senate.

NATO acquiesces in Bonn's problems

LONDON, (Reuters): With their mild reaction to West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl's statement that no NATO decision is needed this year to modernise nuclear weapons, the United States and Britain have accepted that Bonn's political problems come first.

Washington and London, the most hard-line members of the 16-nation Western alliance, had for some time been pushing the West Germans to agree in 1989 to a programme to upgrade short-range missiles and other nuclear systems.

Bonn, faced with widespread public opposition to the plan, had been dragging its feet.

Finally Kohl, in an interview with the British newspaper Financial Times published on Friday, said there was no need to commit NATO to an update of its 88 Lance missile launchers until 1991 or 1992.

Sympathetic
Initial US and British comments were surprisingly sympathetic to the dilemma of the West German leader, who has tried to show Atlantic solidarity while at the same time taking account of the strong anti-nuclear feeling at home.

A European-based US official said Washington wanted a "positive signal" from Bonn on replacing the ageing Lance. NATO's only tactical missile with a range of 110 km (70 miles), has become more acute since the 1987 US-Soviet Intermediate-range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty abolishing medium-range missiles.

The US Defence Department is examining several candidates for new missile, but said: "It doesn't have to be a decision (on modernisation) taken in 1989. We recognise that the Germans aren't going to do that."

The man who could not become Japanese emperor

By Janet Snyder

TOKYO, (Reuters): If history turned out differently, 64-year-old bookbinder Takanobu Kumazawa might have been the emperor of Japan.

He is not pressing too hard his family's 600-year-old claim to the Chrysanthemum Throne for fear of police harassment and rightist violence.

These days, he also refuses to grant interviews for fear that media exposure would harm the marriage prospects of his two daughters.

"I don't want to talk to anybody anymore," Takanobu told Reuters when contacted by telephone. "People create all kinds of stories about us, and I'm fed up with it."

His father, Hiromichi, went to his grave protesting that he was the real son of heaven instead of Hirohito, who died on Jan 7 after reigning for 62 years and whose funeral is on Feb 24.

Claim
The family's right to some claim on the throne was acknowledged by none other than Hirohito's own grandfather, Emperor Meiji, but he died soon after recognising the Kumazawa's role in Japan's imperial history.

Now, as Hirohito's lavish funeral approaches, history buffs may be tempted to look back on the record.

The Kumazawa pretenders are at the centre of the only major dynastic schism in Japanese history, from 1336-1392.

In 1336 two rival branches of the imperial family, the northern court and the southern court,



Hiromichi Kumazawa simultaneously staked claims to the throne.

They settled the matter with an agreement to take turns, each emperor to be followed by one from the rival branch.

But the northern court, ancestors of the current Imperial Family, reneged on the deal and tried to wipe out the southern court's descendants, the Kumazawas.

After more than 50 years of battles, two surviving princes of the southern court escaped to Aichi prefecture in central Japan and took the name Kumazawa.

The dynastic dispute rested there for centuries and northern court successors like Hirohito and his son, and now emperor, Akihito have continued to reign.

It took Takanobu's grandfather Taizen, a Buddhist preacher, to stir things up 500 years after the southern court disappeared.

Taizen whipped up so much support for his claim at the turn of the century that in 1911 he even enlisted Emperor Meiji,

who ordered history textbooks to note that 1336-92 was the southern court period.

Meiji died before the Kumazawas could establish themselves further.

Taizen died in 1929, but in 1946, his son Hiromichi took his cause to General Douglas MacArthur, then commander of the US occupation forces in Japan.

Dressed in formal kimono emblazoned with the imperial Chrysanthemum crest, the shaven-headed Hiromichi went to the headquarters of the occupation command and announced that he was the legitimate heir to the throne.

Stability
But MacArthur refused to see him. The decision to keep Hirohito on the throne after the war was made for the sake of Japan's stability and no rival claims were being considered.

Hiromichi, undaunted, went on the stump throughout Japan, and drummed up "white" grassroots support. He died in 1966.

Years of harassment by right-wing extremists have squelched son Takanobu's tentative publicity attempts.

One family acquaintance commented on Takanobu's reluctance to go public: "His wife has convinced him that nothing will change. And the rightists can certainly disrupt the fortunes of the family if he persists."

In a rare interview granted before Hirohito's death, the Kyoto Journal quoted Takanobu as saying: "The usurpation of the (southern court) is perhaps only one small problem, but it's symbolically important."

possible for China to prevent the people of Hong Kong from electing their own legislature until well into the 21st century.

Hong Kong complains about basic law

belong to the European Economic Community, which grants reciprocal residential rights to citizens of member countries.

Britain and China agreed in principle in 1984 that the financially prosperous colony, a few miles from the coastal Chinese city of Guangzhou (Canton), should be handed over. Ever since, negotiators have been working on the details. So far there have been two drafts of the basic law.

The version provisionally agreed at a meeting in Guangzhou on Jan 14-15, will soon be considered by a standing committee of the Chinese National People's Congress (parliament) in Beijing.

In Hong Kong itself, citizens' groups are complaining that, as it stands, the draft would make it

During negotiations opened in 1984 by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, it was agreed that Hong Kong would enjoy special status after 1997 and that there would be steady progress toward democracy.

In Hong Kong, however, opposition leaders say the draft basic law would enable the authorities in Beijing to block a directly elected Hong Kong parliament at least until the year 2011 — 14 years after Britain turns over the colony.

Even then there would have to be a referendum under Beijing's auspices before that happened.

The Christian Science Monitor

TODAY IN HISTORY
1574 — Dutch rebels seize Zeeland.
1685 — La Salle, French explorer, establishes first settlement in Texas.
1856 — Reform edict is published in Turkish empire.
1884 — British forces under General Charles Gordon reach Khartoum in Sudan, but the Mahdi rejects his offer to negotiate.
1900 — Piet Cronje surrenders to British at Paardeberg in South African war.
1915 — German blockade of England goes into effect as submarine war is intensified in World War I.
1945 — Pacific war battle for Iwo Jima begins in World War II.
1964 — Earthquakes rock Azores in eastern Atlantic, and ships battle high waves to evacuate people from San Jorge Island.
1965 — African nation of Gambia becomes independent within British Commonwealth.
1970 — Young Filipinos storm US embassy compound in Manila protesting US military bases in Philippines and US economic policy.
1983 — Boris N. Yeltsin, outspoken former protégé of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, is ousted from ruling Communist Party politburo in Moscow.

A black and white photograph of the Alhambra in Granada, Spain. The image shows a long, symmetrical row of arched loggias (patios) with intricate tilework and arches. In the foreground, there is a reflecting pool that mirrors the architecture. The overall scene is a classic representation of Moorish architecture.

Blues music still going strong

By Dean Goodman

WELLINGTON, (Reuters): Blues music, the melancholy source of strength for American slaves more than 100 years ago, still has a place in the prosperous 1980s.

That's the gospel according to 63-year-old singer-guitarist B.B. King, in the blues business since 1949 and in the middle of yet another world tour. Blues music, he says, is ever-evolving to reflect the times.

"Blues is not always one-sided as some seem to think," King said in an interview before performing for a packed house of 2,500 in Wellington, capital of New Zealand.

"They say you have to be black, you have to be born in Mississippi and you have to be in slavery when you were born — all that is absolute poppycock."

There are none of the usual backstage trappings of rock royalty for King and his long-serving six-piece band.

A half-dozen warm cans of Coca-Cola, a bottle of New Zealand white wine and a bottle of whisky. Not a groupie in sight.

Dressed in straight-legged sky-blue trousers, navy-blue blazer with a zip-up plaid waistcoat emphasizing his waistline, King looks super-trendy compared to his band's flared light brown suits.

But such things have little importance to the man who was born on a cotton plantation in Indianola, Mississippi.

He continues his animated discourse on his trade. "Blues purists figure that you shouldn't have played anything different from what I played in 1949. And then other people think you should play whatever's being played today," he said.

"Personally I think that



American blues singer B.B. King in concert. He has been in the business since 1949.

blues is just a form of music like any other type of music, only played in a way that's called blues. It has to do with people and places and the economy and the lovers of the day.

"The blues has a place in every shop, on every airwave," King, who has been making hits since 1951 and has been showered with awards, gold records and honorary degrees, says he is still trying to improve his technique.

"Some of us try to shine the music up a bit, y'know... I'm one of those guys that don't choose to stay just as is."

"I'm overweight but I'm trying to do something about it. It's the same thing musically — I'm not happy with anything I do. That sounds weird but I feel the only way to make it better is to practise."

One of the reasons for King's frantic tour schedule — he played 400 shows last year — is his desire not only to pay his bills but also to spread the blues gospel. "When you go to cities out of our country, it seems to stimulate the blues music somewhat and so people know that B.B. King is alive and well."

But come the day when he is not so healthy, King has no worries that the blues will fall into disrepair.

"When it's no longer B.B. King around I think the blues won't suffer at all. There are so many young players today that are great, but the leaders to me are Robert Cray, Stevie Ray Vaughan and a blind Canadian guy called Jeff Healey," he said.

While under no illusions as to his own mortality, King is nevertheless keen to ensure that his music is immortalised.

Beatlemania: twenty-five years on

By Dolores Barclay

NEW YORK, (AP): Twenty-five years ago this month, the Beatles made their first appearance on US television and changed the musical tastes of the nation that invented rock 'n' roll.

The four mopheads from Liverpool, England, landed on Feb 7 to make their appearance two days later on "The Ed Sullivan Show," a network television variety programme.

Their snappy reworking of blues-based rock harmonies galvanized the nation's youngsters and inflamed with Beatlemania. It would be years before the fever would die down.

They were cocky and refreshing at their news conferences. At one, John Lennon was asked to what they owed their success? "Good press agent," he replied.

Ringo Starr was asked what he thought of Beethoven. His reply: "Great. Especially his poems."

Sell

They went on to sell more than any group in pop history. Indeed, after their appearance on "The Ed Sullivan Show," the Beatles sold 2.5 million records in the United States in less than a month.

Lennon is dead now, shot outside his New York apartment building on Dec 8, 1980.

George Harrison lives with his second wife, Olivia, and nine-year-old son, Dhani, in a fortress-like Gothic mansion with spires and turrets at Henley-on-Thames in western England.

He has lived out of the limelight for nearly 20 years, but re-emerged somewhat in 1987 to give his first full concert in 15 years in July at Wembley arena and to record a hit single, "Got My Mind Set On You," which topped the US charts in January 1988.

He also has recorded with Bob Dylan, Roy Orbison and Tom Petty in a tongue-in-cheek group known as the Travelling Wilburys, and he is co-owner and an executive producer of the independent British film company, Handmade Films (The Missionary, and Life of Brian).

Starr spent five weeks in a US alcoholism clinic last fall with his wife, actress Barbara Bach. They live in a secluded estate near Ascot in southern England. He became the first Beatle grandfather when his 20-year-old son,

The four mopheads from Liverpool, England, galvanised the youth of yesterday with Beatlemania. Their influence is still felt today.



The Beatles in their heyday

Zak Starkey, eldest of three children from his first wife, became a father on Sept 7, 1985.

Paul McCartney is working on an album, which includes some songs co-written by Elvis Costello, to be released later this year. He has too many commitments to consider the 25th anniversary, his spokesman Bernard Doherty said.

McCartney has four children. His family lives on a fortified forest estate in Sussex in south-east England.

The 1964 television appearance was the Beatles' first foray into the United States general consciousness. They had been wildly popular in Europe for some time, but their first No. 1 song in the United States, "I Want To Hold Your Hand," came just two weeks before the TV show.

Within a year, they grossed \$1.6 million in the first week's showing of their movie, A Hard Day's Night, and Lennon's kooky book, In His Own Write, climbed bestseller lists overnight. In rapid succession, they made six hit albums, including 1967's remarkable Sgt Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band.

"Sgt Pepper" sold 2.5 million records in its first three months and stayed on the charts for a staggering 113 weeks.

This alternately melancholy, terrifying and exhilarating

record captured as no other the complex textures of its time: a supercharged, corrosively contradictory summer when hippies grooved, black communities exploded in riots and the Vietnam war grew bloodier. Its elaborate orchestral arrangements and elliptical but poignant lyrics changed the minds of many who until then had regarded the group as musical savages.

Heralding

In retrospect, the press release heralding the Beatles' first appearance in the United States was low-keyed. It identified them as "The Beatles of London" — a "wildly popular quartet of English recording stars."

Sullivan, the TV show host, handled the squealing audience as a father would a hyperactive child. He gently shushed them and made the girls promise to stay in their seats. Then he swept his arm through the air as the curtain parted.

There was Paul, 21, wide-eyed and boyish, feverishly working the bass guitar and singing "All My Loving" at one microphone. George, 20, was on the lead guitar. John, 23, on rhythm guitar, harmonised at another microphone. Ringo, 23, sat high above them on a platform, pounding out beats on the drums.

Paul soloed on "Till There Was You." Later, the Beatles returned

with the Lennon-McCartney song, "She Loves You."

They were fresh and school-boy neat in their Edwardian jackets, shirts and ties. Their hair, considered outrageously long at the time, fell in agreeable bangs across their foreheads and stopped somewhere mid-neck.

After the Sullivan show, the Beatles played the Washington Coliseum in Washington, D.C. On Feb 12, they played Carnegie Hall where fans drowned their music in screams.

Three years later, the Beatles began to show signs of weariness and drifting apart. Exhausted from years of concert touring, McCartney and Lennon had each done some independent film work; Lennon met his future wife, Yoko Ono, in a London art gallery in 1967, around the time they recorded "Sgt Pepper." Harrison went off to India to study under Ravi Shankar. Two months after "Sgt Pepper" was released, Brian Epstein, the Beatles' manager and stabilising influence, died. With him went much of the spirit that had held the group together.

In 1970, a year after the critically acclaimed "Abbey Road" was released, McCartney came out with a solo LP and a self-interview critical of the other Beatles. The LP and movie, "Let It Be," came out and by the end of the year, the group dissolved.

Paula Abdul retains top spot on US charts

NEW YORK, (AP): Paula Abdul stayed on for the second straight week Wednesday at the top of the US pop singles record charts with her big hit Straight Up.

Born To Be My Baby by Bon Jovi hopped up one notch to second spot on the Cash Box magazine chart. Wild Thing by Ten Loc jumped from fifth to second position.

Last week's number two hit, When I'm With You by Sheryl Crow, dipped to fourth.

Soaring fast on the list was Debbie Gibson's Lost In Your Eyes, up from 12th to 7th.

Two other newcomers were What I Am by Edie Brickell and the New Bohemians, up from 11th to 9th, and You Got It by New Kids On The Block, up from 14th to 10th.

As for the country-and-western singles, Big Wheels In The Moonlight by Dan Seals took over the number one position on the Cash Box magazine chart. Dying Young by Clint Black was second, and Earl Thomas Conley's What I'd Say was third.

Top Ten US

The top 10 pop singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (1) Straight Up — Paula Abdul (Virgin).
2. (3) Born To Be My Baby — Bon Jovi (Mercury-Polygram).
3. (5) Wild Thing — Tone Loc (Delicious Vinyl).
4. (2) When I'm With You — Sheryl Crow (Capitol).
5. (4) When The Children Cry — White Lion (Atlantic).
6. (9) The Lover In Me — Sheena Easton (MCA).
7. (12) Lost In Your Eyes — Debbie Gibson (Atlantic).
8. (10) She Wants To Dance With Me — Rick Astley (RCA).
9. (11) What I Am — Edie Brickell And The New Bohemians (Geffen).
10. (14) You Got It — New Kids On The Block (Columbia).

The top 10 country-western singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets:

1. (5) Big Wheels In The Moonlight — Dan Seals (Capitol).
2. (4) I Sang Dixie — Dwight Yoakam (Warner Brothers-Repertoire).
3. (2) What I'd Say — Earl Thomas Conley (RCA).
4. (7) Life As We Knew It — Kathy Mattea (Mercury).
5. (1) Song Of The South — Alabama (RCA).
6. (8) Highway Robbery — Tanya Tucker (Capitol).
7. (9) I Still Believe In You — Desert Rose Band (MCA-Curb).
8. (11) I Just Called To Say Goodbye Again — Larry Boone (Mercury).
9. (12) Till You Cry — Eddy Raven (RCA).
10. (13) Don't Waste It On The Blues — Gene Watson (Warner Brothers).

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8. (11) I Just Called To Say Goodbye Again — Larry Boone (Mercury).

9. (12) Till You Cry — Eddy Raven (RCA).

10. (13) Don't Waste It On The Blues — Gene Watson (Warner Brothers).

The Scottish group Simple Minds came from off the British pop singles chart this week to stand at number 1 with Belfast Child.

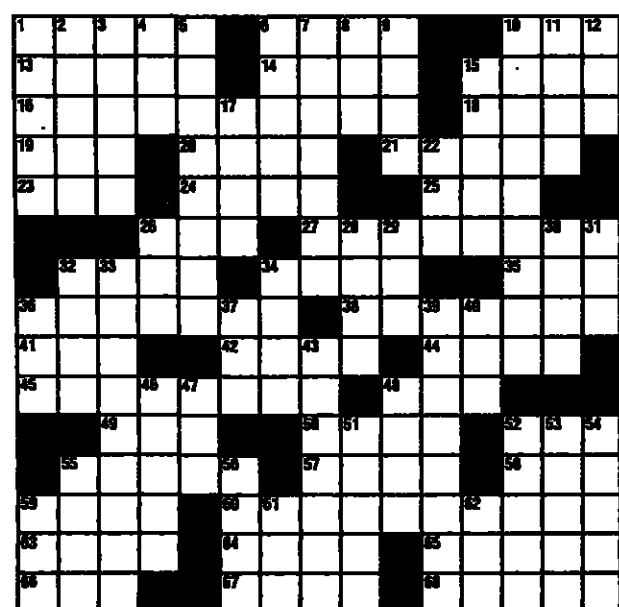
Something's Gotten Ahold Of My Heart, by Marc Almond, featuring Gene Pitney who originally released the song, was bumped into second spot after three weeks at the top.

Top Ten UK

This week's top 10 singles, as listed by Our Price Music Ltd, the national music retail chain, with last week's placings in parentheses:

1. (—) Belfast Child — Simple Minds (Virgin).
2. (1) Something's Gotten Ahold Of My Heart — Marc Almond and Gene Pitney (Parlophone).
3. (11) Love Changes Everything — Michael Ball (Really Useful).
4. (2) The Last Of The Famous International Playboys — Morrissey (HMV).
5. (3) The Living Years — Mike and the Mechanics (WEA).
6. (6) Love Train — Holy Johnson (MCA).
7. (8) My Prerogative — Bobby Brown (MCA).
8. (13) Fine Time — Yazz (Big Life).
9. (5) You Got It — Roy Orbison (Virgin).
10. (7) That's The Way Love Is — Ten City (Atlantic).

TODAY'S CROSSWORD



- ACROSS
- 1 Set of maps
 - 6 Teltale sign
 - 10 Conducted
 - 13 Relaxed
 - 14 Home of six Presidents
 - 15 Completed
 - 16 Its banks are bonnie
 - 18 Univ. course
 - 19 Kind
 - 20 Eternally
 - 21 Jockeys' wear
 - 23 Wind direction
 - 24 Madrid abode
 - 25 Much-used article
 - 26 Amer.-Eur. divider
 - 27 Askew
 - 32 Ocean flow
 - 34 Slippery
 - 35 Spanish gold
 - 36 Agree
 - 38 Disassemble
 - 41 Ump's call
 - 42 Elevator man
 - 44 Scraps
 - 45 Church members
 - 48 Pass receiver
 - 49 Classic auto
 - 50 Zealand native
 - 52 Settle down
 - 55 Gladden
 - 57 Nervous
 - 58 "— was saying"
 - 59 Cupid
 - 60 Brunch choice, perhaps
 - 63 Asian staple
 - 64 Ulgant
 - 65 Keen
 - 66 Writing material
 - 67 Assistant
 - 68 Xenon and others
- DOWN
- 1 "— forgiven"
 - 2 Kit contents
 - 3 English philosopher
 - 4 John: 1632-1704
 - 5 A chosen one
 - 6 Michael of Royal Ballet fame
 - 7 Singing group
 - 8 One, to a Scot
 - 9 Some are hot?
 - 10 Prevented from entering
 - 11 Son of Seth
 - 12 Sanctum
 - 15 City of N India
 - 17 Famed office
 - 22 — a boy!
 - 26 Agcy. products
 - 28 Automaker
 - 29 Famed English engraver
 - 30 Sea birds
 - 31 Point
 - 32 — de force
 - 33 Mesh
 - 34 Kitchen follower
 - 35 Corn holder
 - 37 Neither's partner
 - 39 Cash container
 - 40 California fort
 - 43 Keyed
 - 46 Torment
 - 47 Frank, with "dog"
 - 48 MIT grad
 - 51 Worship
 - 52 Wise ones
 - 53 Seine feeder
 - 54 Contests
 - 55 Ireland
 - 56 Joy's lioness
 - 59 Silkworm
 - 61 Parisian's consent
 - 62 Pie — mode

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ACES ASHE DAWN
CORIA DIANE ARIA
HUNDREDDYARDASH
SNIDE CREATES
TEENIER TOP
ROTOR RIATAS
SAL OBOE CLARA
PREAKNEISSSTAKES
ALORNA SETA ESS
ROSARY SEMIS
AID SECTOR
SCATTER EAVES
THREELLEGGEDRAGE
LANA DANES ETTA
ODOR MUTT REOS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
READ THEM AND WIN

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ 7 6 4
♥ K Q 8 2
♦ Q 7 5
♣ J 9 3

WEST
♠ A K 2
♥ A 10 5
♦ J 10 9 8 3
♣ A 10

EAST
♠ Q J 9 3
♥ 7
♦ 6 4 2
♣ 8 7 5 4 2

SOUTH
♠ 10 8 5
♥ J 9 6 4 3
♦ A K
♣ K Q 6

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♥ 1 NT 2 ♥ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: King of ♠
If you read bridge columns, ours included, you might get the impression that you have to be in game or slam for the play to be interesting. Nothing could be further from the truth. Many low-level contracts feature sparkling play and defense.

West's no trump overall showed the equivalent of a no trump opening bid. Because of his fit, North might have considered a penalty double rather than two hearts—de-

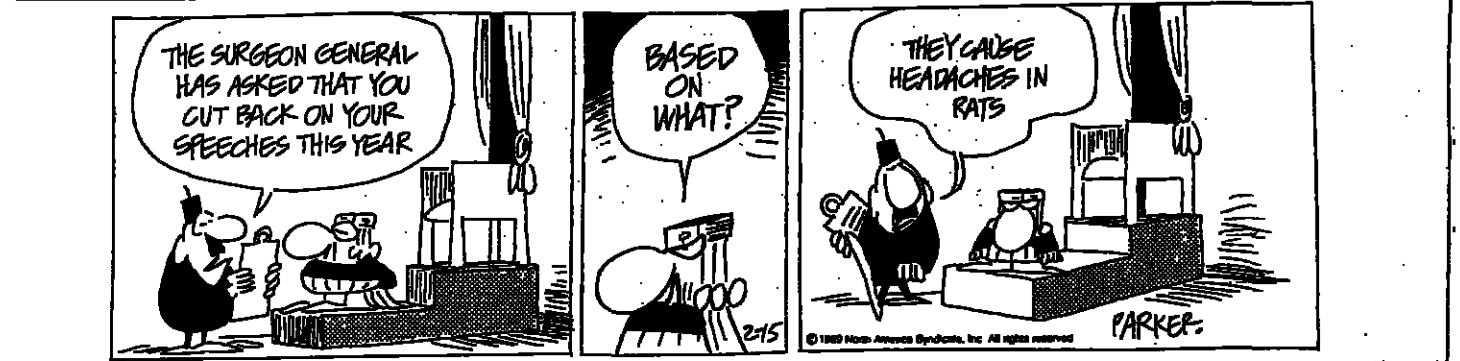
clarer could have been held to six tricks.

Against two hearts, West led the king of spades and East dropped the queen. This play guarantees either a singleton queen or possession of the jack as well. Since a singleton queen was impossible (that would have given South a six-card spade suit), West knew he had an entry to his partner's hand. He also knew that he could expect no other help from his partner—all the points in the pack were accounted for.

For the defense to prevail, the defenders would need to take three spade tricks. That, together with the aces of hearts and clubs, would provide the defensive book. Where was the trump trick coming from?

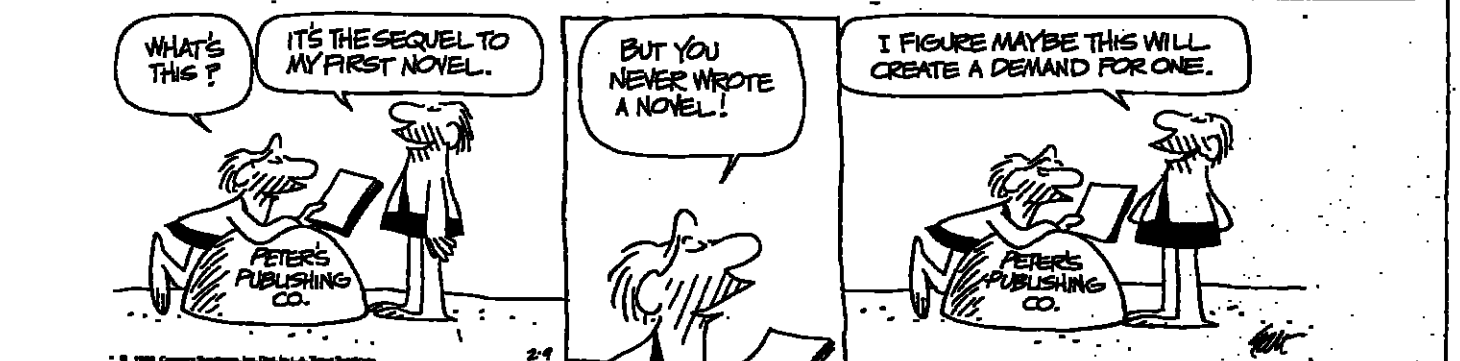
A trump promotion was impossible because of dummy's holding. That left only a club ruff. So at trick two West abandoned spades in favor of switching to the ace of clubs and another. Declarer won and led a trump, but West wasted no time. He climbed up with the ace, cashed the king of spades and continued with a spade to East's jack. The obvious club return and West's ruff for a one-trick set completed an excellent defense.

THE WIZARD OF ID



B.C.

By Johnny Hart



YOUR STARS

Aries (March 20 - April 18)

The Moon's influence coupled with that of Mercury will help you to get your own way in lots of things, but not all. You should beware of careless drivers when on the road. Do not expect immediate results. Be persistent.

Cancer (June 21 - July 21)

You should not trust too much of a rush, but there is no time to waste either. You will be able to take advantage of favorable circumstances. Listen to what others are saying, but do not believe all you hear. Be observant.

Libra (Sept. 22 - Oct. 22)

You should not trust too much of a rush, but there is no time to waste either. You will be able to take advantage of favorable circumstances. Listen to what others are saying, but do not believe all you hear. Be observant.

Capricorn (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)

If you have accepted a favour try to ensure that you return it in some way. You will tend to be a little forgetful so do make notes for yourself. There is no reason to be pessimistic.

Taurus (April 19 - May 19)

You should keep your wits very much about you. You must avoid spending as if there were no tomorrow. Show a little more goodwill towards others. Be tolerant.

Leo (July 22 - Aug. 21)

The Moon's influence will help you to stick to your resolve. You should not allow your personal prejudices and aversions to predominate. Try to take a more balanced viewpoint. Be tactful.

Scorpio (Oct. 23 - Nov. 21)

Your mood will have its ups and downs, but you will have some news that should cheer you up. You should not expect to get your own way in all things. Do not waste time on secondary matters. Be solicitous.

Aquarius (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)

At first you will be rather unsure of yourself but soon you will regain your confidence. You will hear something that could be very much to your benefit. Make sure you do not exceed any speed limits. Be fair.

Gemini (May 20 - June 20)

You should make sure you are on time for an invitation and that you do not stay too late. You should not lose confidence in yourself. Make sure you do not eat so much that you put on weight. Be magnanimous.

Virgo (Aug. 22 - Sept. 21)

Mars' better influence will help you to deal with a rather tricky domestic situation. You will have more commonsense and you can certainly use it. You will have something personal to be pleased about. Be moderate.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)

You will be able to acquire what seems like a bargain, but make sure that it is. Do not think others will always behave the way you would wish them to. Ensure that you do nothing injurious to your health. Be provident.

Pisces (Feb. 19 - March 19)

You should make sure you do not make a nuisance of yourself or bore others. Take just a little more regular exercise. Ensure you do not leave any valuables lying around. Be proud of yourself but not arrogant.



London stocks firm

Dollar gives up gains, gold edges back

LONDON, Feb 17, (Reuters): The dollar surged almost one penny and one cent higher today after Washington announced the US trade deficit had shrunk in December.

But it was short-lived and the gains soon began to fade. The US currency had fallen earlier in Asia overnight and in Europe during morning trading on rumours the deficit would be far worse.

Narrowed

The Commerce Department said the trade gap narrowed to \$11.89 billion from \$12.22 billion in November.

That was comfortably within the wide range of analysts' expectations.

Over the whole of 1988, the gap was \$137.34 billion against \$170.32 billion in 1987.

Twenty minutes after the 1330 GMT announcement, the dollar was quoted around 1.8360 West German marks and 125.75 Japanese yen, almost unchanged from just before the news broke.

Gold bullion edged back over \$380 an ounce within half an hour of the US numbers after having fallen to 2-1/2 year lows around 378 in early European trade.

Firmed

London's Stock Market firmed after the US news but prices soon began to drift again and by 1400 GMT the FTSE index of 100 leading shares stood 11.9 points down at 2,021.9.

West German shares closed mixed in thin trading in Frankfurt before the US data was released. Wall Street was expected to

take the figures in its stride when it opened at 1430 GMT.

Reflecting the reaction of several traders and analysts, Prudential-Bache analyst Larry Wachtel said in New York: "I don't think it's a neutral number. I don't think it will have any major impact on the stock market."

Several others said that even a bigger-than-expected number might not have had much effect. Forty-five minutes after the US trade figures the dollar appeared to have settled for the time being around 1.8350 marks and 125.80 yen.

Although the currency initially firmed because of dealers' relief the US trade deficit was not as bad as had been feared, the market's negative trend soon reasserted itself. One analyst said investors

would now turn their attention to remarks on Thursday by West German Finance Minister Gerhard Stoltenberg to parliament in Bonn that rising inflation in the number of industrial countries was a cause for concern.

Britain announced today its annual inflation rate was up to 7.5 per cent in December from 6.8 per cent in November.

Record

Earlier in Asia, Tokyo's stock market, the world's largest, rolled on to a record closing high after falling yesterday.

The Nikkei average ended 89.81 points up at 32,173.39.

Hong Kong dropped sharply in morning business but a rally took it to a higher close. But Australian shares in Sydney were unable to reverse a slide sparked yesterday by poor trade figures

and eased further.

The price of gold fell in London to its lowest level in 2-1/2 years this morning after selling by Australian producers depressed prices in Asia, dealers said.

Bullion was quoted as low as \$377.90 an ounce, \$4 down yesterday's close, before edging up to beset at \$378.95 at London's morning fixing.

Oil prices were becalmed in quiet European business as a week of energy industry functions in London drew to a close.

North Sea Brent blend, the most widely traded crude, was quoted around \$16 a barrel for April delivery, marginally higher than on Thursday.

The benchmark US Treasury 30-year bond was quoted in London at 99-4/32 per cent, yielding 9.08 per cent.

Budget negotiations a two-way street, says President

Bush, congressional leaders to discuss spending plan

ST LOUIS, Feb 17, (Reuters): President Bush, promoting his budget proposal as offering fiscal sanity, said today he had set up an economic summit with congressional leaders for next week.

The White House meeting, slated for Tuesday, would be the first direct talks between the President and key members of Congress to discuss the spending plan for the 1990 financial year that Bush submitted last week.

Consultations

"Budget consultations with the Congress are under way and we are making progress," Bush told students during an address at Washington University.

"I invited congressional leaders back to the White House for another round of budget talks next Tuesday," he said.

Bush said he was "committed to working closely with my friends" in Congress. "Together,

we must make the budget process work," he said.

The President, in his third speech on the budget this week, said his "budget balances social concern with fiscal sanity... it shows we have a heart as well as head."

Democrats in the House and Senate have voiced concern over the administration's \$1.16 trillion budget, which would increase spending for some popular programmes without identifying areas that must be cut.

The Democrats, who control both Houses of Congress, fear they will be blamed for the cutbacks while Bush wins praise for increasing spending in other areas.

The meeting comes on the eve of Bush's departure on a foreign trip that includes stops in Japan, China and South Korea.

The summit would provide Bush with at least symbolic proof that the United States intends to bring its massive federal budget deficit, expected to reach \$163 billion this year, under control.

Federal law mandates the deficit not exceed \$100 billion in the 1990 fiscal year, which begins on Oct 1, or automatic across-the-board cuts would go into effect.

The size of the US deficit, which has strained relations between Washington and Tokyo, has been blamed for unrest on world financial markets.

Meanwhile, Bush called budget negotiations a "two-way street" yesterday and denied he was trying to shift to Congress the responsibility for proposing unpopular cuts.

"I don't think that is the informed opinion of the key leaders in Congress today," Bush said. He also denied any major

policy rift with Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan over interest rates, though he added, "maybe we'll get into a fight down the road."

In an interview with a small group of reporters, Bush said he was pleased so far with congressional reaction to his \$1.16-trillion spending plan for the fiscal year 1990, which begins in October.

Greatest

"I said ahead of time I didn't expect everybody would jump up and down and say this is the greatest thing since sliced bread," Bush said.

"The Republicans have generally been enthusiastic," he said. "The Democrats, though not endorsing it quite as much, have seen some positive direction, some positive objectives, in the budget."

Some Democratic critics have

complained that the Bush budget, while advocating expanded social programmes, is vague on details of what must be cut to pay for the new initiatives.

These critics have said the situation allows Bush to get credit for new programmes to aid education, the homeless and environmental cleanup, while sticking Congress with the job of finding cuts in other areas to pay for them.

Efforts

After saying that wasn't the view of key leaders, Bush added that if some people do hold that opinion, "then we will redouble our efforts to be sure they understand there's no validity to that."

"Yes, there's a lot more detail that has to be hammered out. And we will work with them to satisfy their interests, and find out what they want. It's a two way street," he said.

EEC officials to discuss trade tensions with US

BRUSSELS, Belgium, Feb 17, (AP): Two senior EEC officials head for Washington this week to discuss growing bilateral and international trade tensions, a spokesman for the EEC executive commission said Wednesday.

The two EEC officials are also expected to discuss the state of the Uruguay round of world trade talks. These have hit a snag due to a dispute between the United States and the EEC over the phasing out of agriculture subsidies.

The EEC is also concerned about the unilateral measures Washington can take under its new trade bill against allegedly unfair trade practices of other nations.

Plan

Also, Wegter said, the EEC wants to discuss a US plan identifying the EEC and South Korea as a priority markets for winning better access to telecommunications contracts for American firms.

The visit will be the first top-level encounter since the new commission, the executive body of the 12-nation European Economic Community, and the administration of President George Bush took office at the beginning of 1989.

EEC Agriculture Commissioner Ray MacSharry left for Washington yesterday, Nico Wegter, the commission spokesman, said.

EEC External Relations Commissioner Frans Andriessen will join him there today after talks in Brussels with US secretary of State James Baker who is currently touring European capitals.

Kuwait backs Egypt's return to OPEC

KUWAIT, Feb 17, (AP): Kuwait's Oil Minister Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Sabah said today his country "will support very enthusiastically" Egypt's return to the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries. "We hope Egypt will regain its seat among its brethren in OPEC at the next ministerial session. The Arabs cannot do without Egypt and Egypt cannot do without the Arabs," he declared.

Policies

The 11-member OAPEC, through which Arab countries co-ordinate their oil policies and the activities of oil-related industries, is scheduled to meet in Kuwait in May.

Egypt's membership in OAPEC was suspended along with its seat in the Arab League and other pan-Arab branch organisations after its 1979 peace treaty with Israel.

Iraq has organised Egypt's return to OAPEC.

Conable warns about toxic dumping, pollution

MANILA, Feb 17, (Reuters): World Bank President Barber Conable warned yesterday the world faced a growing threat from uncontrolled toxic wastes and industrial nations must not be permitted to dump them on developing countries.

"Industrial states have the capacity to dispose of these poisons," he said in a speech to Philippine businessmen.

"They must not be permitted simply to dump them on developing nations that lack even the means to handle their own pollution," he said.

Conable said there had been a rapid growth in the international

trade in toxic waste. "Much of it is illicit and unmonitored," he said.

He said neglect in the United States had created a multi-billion dollar problem for Washington.

Agreement

Senegalese President Abdou Diouf said at an environmental conference last month an international agreement must be signed to limit toxic waste exports before the problem became an endless nightmare for developing countries.

"The problem is growing throughout the world, a rising threat the bank seeks to contain by helping governments," Conable said.

He said the World Bank would provide money to help tackle industrial waste and cut emissions that damage the world's ozone layer. "If industry has to re-equip, we believe the bank should be there to help," he said.

Objective

Conable, on a four-day visit to the Philippines, said toxic waste could best be dealt with before neglect created a major clean-up crisis. "It should be a priority concern for all of us," he declared.

"Our objective is to make sure that the developing countries we assist can take charge of

adequately treating and disposing of any toxic emissions they produce," he added.

"Where existing capacity is not equal to the job, we work with governments to make investments adequate to handle industrial wastes with clean, economic technology," he said. "If there is an extra cost, we will seek ways to have it met."

He said that while there may be exceptions, such as the need to incinerate substances at very high temperatures, when a nation could justify shipping toxic wastes to another with facilities for proper disposal, in general the World Bank opposed any trade in toxic waste.

He hoped effective measures to bring the trade under control could be covered in an international convention now being negotiated through the United Nations Environment Programme.

Critical

Environmental problems all over the world are of critical importance to future development, he said.

"Waste and pollution destroy the foundation for long-term, sustainable growth. Land that erodes today cannot support a life of progress tomorrow. Water resources poisoned or despoiled for quick gains cannot be easily revived to yield steady, lasting returns," he said.

Private sector business must be encouraged to protect as they produce, while governments must have better laws and enforcement to protect forests, upland farms and coastal fishing areas, Conable said.

Third World warns EEC about dangers of structural adjustment

BRAZZAVILLE, Feb 17, (Reuters): Third World nations today urged the European Economic Community to avoid tying a new trade and aid treaty to programmes that might damage developing economies.

They made their plea towards the end of a two-day ministerial meeting between the 66-member group of African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) nations and the EEC held to discuss replacing the current five-year Lome Convention, which is worth about \$9.5 billion and which expires in 1990.

The ACP argued that existing World Bank and International Monetary Fund (IMF) programmes, which help finance imports by cutting public spending, were too concerned with figures and have in the past had disastrous social side-effects.

"The IMF asks us to sack teachers, health workers and other people essential to our well-being in total disregard for the quality of life of our people. We want any EEC programme to help health, education and welfare programmes," an ACP delegate said.

Schemes

Some EEC donors say Lome aid could be better spent if it were focused on individual structural adjustment schemes, but the ACP fears the EEC will co-ordinate closely with the World Bank and IMF and will devise programmes with conditions similar to those of the Washington-based agencies.

"We will discuss conditionality but will not accept conditions the same as offered by the World Bank and the IMF," one ACP diplomat said. "That's too much of a black and white picture. We have to co-ordinate with the IMF and World Bank to be able to produce a different but coherent programme. It does not mean we'll be copying theirs." Junior Dutch Foreign Minister Berend-Jan Baron van Voorst tot Voorst said.

Although the community has said it will devise original programmes to take the social aspect into account, development experts have said it does not have the financial or technical

ability to compete with the two Washington-based institutions, something some EEC diplomats realise.

"To be honest, I'd be astonished if the terms of our programmes were much less than those of the IMF and World Bank. The community isn't quite sure what it wants," said one senior EEC diplomat, who declined to be named.

At the end of the day the litmus test is the likely impact on the social dimension. Our people have had enough social pain for a long time," said Jamaica's EEC Ambassador Leslie Wilson.

ACP states say there is a link between low commodity prices and structural adjustment programmes to help countries

which cannot pay their debts and have said the community should pay more for their commodities.

Earlier ACP officials reacted with mixed feelings to news that EEC ministers would discuss Third World debt at two meetings set for March and June.

"That's excellent news," said Fijian Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, who is head of the ACP's ministerial council.

But ACP Secretary-General Edwin Carrington said there was no guarantee the ministers would discuss the ACP's \$140 billion debt to the community and individual EEC states.

"If they discuss our debt, that's fine. But you don't know what they're going to talk about. There's no progress yet," he said.

SHIPPING MOVEMENTS

SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUWAIKH PORT AS ON 17/2/89			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
3	Ayubia	Al Manid	2421439
5	Cassia	Algh Barwil	4842988
14	Maroudio	GH & Q	4347815
19	Marine	Al Bader	2433537
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUWAIKH PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
16/2	Meghal	S. Shaheen	2432692
16/2	Evermore Clear	ISA	2441860
17/2	Zul Jenah	KSA	4843150
17/2	Hual Angelita	A. Bahar	2433881
17/2	Babushkin	Al Rasheed	2422026
17/2	Tristan	GH&Q	4347815
17/2	Hual Inbirta	A. Bahar	2433881
SHIPS DISCHARGING AT SHUAIBA PORT			
B.No.	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
11	Luc Nam	Marafie Intl	2465645
NBH-3W/B	Naseeb-8	N. Maritine	4745471
SHIPS EXPECTED AT SHUAIBA PORT			
ETA	Ship Name	Agent	Tel. No.
15/2	Saria	Siamco	2439973
15/2	Philippine Victory	ISA	2441860
15/2	Sae Coral	Pearl	2417758
16/2	Amazonia	Algh Barwil	4842988
16/2	Q. Ibn Al Fuja'a	UASC	4843150
19/2	New Oasis	As. Marafie	4848665
19/2	Victory	ISA	2441860
22/2	Great Liberty	Al Kamal	2425437
23/2	Marina Mistral	ISA	2441860
24/2	Captain Ali	Algh Barwil	4842988
24/2	Korean Zircon	Marafie Intl	2465645
COMPILED BY:			
Alghanim Barwil Shipping Co. Kuwait, Alghanim Industries Building, Airport Road, Shuwaikh. Tel: 4842988/4843988 Ext. 3628/3646.			

Abu Dhabi firm completes successful cost-cutting drive

ABU DHABI, Feb 17, (OPECNA): The Abu Dhabi Marine Operating Company (ADMA-OPCO) has reported major savings following stringent cost-reduction measures implemented in the technical and administrative fields during the last two years.

The company's 1988 report, which was released today, said an "outstanding feature of the year" was the relocation of the Zakum central accommodation platform to the Zakum west super complex, a distance of 13 km, where it will provide improved living and recreational facilities for offshore personnel and reduce operating costs.

Emphasis

The report highlighted last year's emphasis on inspection and maintenance to ensure the long-term integrity of the company's extensive structures and plants. It said "the deepest offshore well in Abu Dhabi was spudded for the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) in the Arzhanah Khuff area and would be drilled to a depth of 18,750 ft. Preparations were also made for a horizontal well to be drilled in upper Zakum."

ADMA-OPCO had six drilling rigs during 1988, all of them under contract to the National Drilling Company (NDC), the report said.

ADMA-OPCO's personnel strength dropped to 1,776 in 1988 from 1,877 in 1987. Arab personnel of various nationalities accounted for 73 per cent of the total number, while UAE nationals constituted 22 per cent.

The company also continued its efforts to train and develop its young graduates during the year and many of them were reported to have progressed towards higher responsibilities.

Exploration activities in 1988 were focused on re-evaluating ADMA-OPCO's concession area, the report said, adding that the 1,775-km line of seismic data acquired in 1987 was interpreted and integrated with data acquired in previous seismic surveys. Several geological and geophysical studies were conducted in-house or by shareholders and consultants.

Proposal

As a result, a proposal was put forward to drill a "wildcat" in 1989 to test a newly-mapped structure in the eastern part of the concession area.

A major geochemical study was completed early in 1988 and a comprehensive regional multidisciplinary study of the upper Jurassic offshore of Abu Dhabi was also initiated during the year.

The implementation of a full field development plan for 'Arab D', the major reservoir of the Umm Shaif field, was completed early in 1988, while lower Zakum's full field development plan was 60 per cent complete by the end of the year.

The commissioning of the Khuff Uweinat Gas project in the Umm Shaif field was expected to be completed early this year. The project will utilise gas from Khuff for injection into the Uweinat reservoir to maintain pressure in the reservoir and maximise condensate liquid

recovery. It will also serve as a back-up source of gas supply to the Abu Dhabi Gas Liquefaction Company's (ADGAS) LNG plant on DAS in the event of a gas shortage from associated gas.

Activity

In addition, hook-up activity — connecting producing and injection wells to production and injection networks — covered 23 strings in Umm Shaif and 10 in Zakum lower.

During the year, a model simulating the historical performance of the Umm Shaif field was completed, while plans were initiated to conduct a laboratory study of gas injection into the Zakum field's 'Thamama V' reservoir. A comprehensive review of hydrocarbons in-place and recoverable reserves in ADMA-OPCO's concession area was also finalised.

Most of the company's drilling activities during the year were concentrated in the northern and eastern parts of the Zakum field. Six high departure wells had been completed by the end of 1988.

Modifications

In the area of exploratory drilling, a programme was drawn up and equipment procured for drilling the deepest well ever attempted by ADMA-OPCO in its history. The well was spudded on behalf of ADNOC in the Arzhanah field to the Khuff and pre-Khuff formations. It is scheduled to be completed in 1989.

Modifications to improve facilities at Das airport continued during the year as the second phase of the project was completed.

Hungary opens East Europe's first Western-style banking school

BUDAPEST, Feb 17, (Reuters): Hungary today opened Eastern Europe's first school of Western-style banking, the latest sign of its determination to push towards a freer economy.

Prime Minister Miklos Nemeth told the opening ceremony of the school, a joint venture with a French organisation, that what he called "distorted ideology" had taken Hungary away from the main lines of development in Europe.

"We would now like to come back to the main road," he said.

Systems

Hungary's banking system must be re-evaluated and entrepreneurship should no longer be viewed with suspicion. He hoped the centre would become a focus of banker training in Eastern Europe, and later of Central Europe.

The International Training Centre for Bankers Ltd is a joint venture of 28 Hungarian finan-

cial groups and the Paris-based Centre International de Formation de la Profession Bancaire.

Representing the French partner, Jean Montgaillard said the Hungarian and French banking systems were part of the same family but had been "separated" for some time.

"Now I have the feeling we are meeting again," he said.

The centre is another step towards Hungary's desire to re-adopt a market economy with tools and instruments usually regarded as capitalist.

Hungarian, Italian and US businessmen founded a business school last November to train Hungarians as Western-style managers. A stock exchange, suppressed after the communist takeover 40 years ago, reopened in January.

Based in a handsome period building on Budapest's Castle Hill, the banking school aims to teach middle managers such

subjects as monetary control, corporate finance and foreign exchange. It began operation this week with an intensive course in English, the language of international banking.

By 1991 it expects to train between 300 and 400 people a year in courses of up to 10 weeks.

Reforms

Hungarian National Bank president Ferenc Bartha said the reform of financial institutions and a mushrooming commercial bank sector had revealed a severe shortage of qualified staff.

Hungarian Bank official Sylvia Szavari said the bank was pleased to support the centre and hoped it would further financial discipline and a well-functioning capital market.

The centre has a founding capital of 130 million forints (\$2.5 million), 96.5 per cent in Hungarian hands. Most of the teachers will be Hungarian bankers trained in Paris.

WORLD STOCK ROUNDUP

SYDNEY, Feb 17, (Reuters): The national share market closed easier as stocks struggled to regain losses from yesterday's 28-point slide. The All Ordinaries index fell 2.9 to 1,448.3.

TOKYO: Share prices ended a roller-coaster day at a record closing high as dealing by securities houses, a wealth of available funds and bullish forecasts for certain sectors triggered buying. The Nikkei rose 89.81 to a record close at 32,173.39.

HONG KONG: Stocks ended a roller-coaster day higher as buyers returned to the market in late morning and afternoon. The Hang Seng index closed 25.11 points higher at 3,106.25.

SINGAPORE: Profit-taking

and lack of follow-through buying interest caused prices to ease across the board in moderate trade. But the Straits Times industrial index managed a marginal 0.10 point gain to 1,129.93.

BOMBAY: Share prices closed after a sedate start in moderate trading for the new account but the market undertone was cautious. Tata Steel rose Rs 5 to 1,86.25.

FRANKFURT: Shares closed mixed after a cautious session. The impending release of US trade data for December heightened the market's uncertainty and kept investors on the sidelines. The Dax Index fell 2.82 to 1,315.09.

ZURICH: Prices closed steady to lower on fairly low turnover.

Trading was very quiet before release of US December trade data. The All-Share Swiss index rose 1.8 to 977.

PARIS: Share prices continued their decline by mid-session in fairly thin volume, with operators still awaiting US December trade figures. The 30-share price indicator was 0.99 per cent down.

LONDON: Equities were well off their lows in late trading on the back of a small rise on Wall Street, which came after news of a US December trade deficit in line with market forecast. At 1540 GMT the FTSE 100 index was up 0.1 at 2,033.9.

NEW YORK: Wall Street blue chips pushed higher after morning trading was generally slow. The Dow was ahead seven points at 2318 and gainers held an edge over declining issues.

Exports of manufactured goods rise

US trade deficit shrinks to \$137.34b

WASHINGTON, Feb 17, (Reuters): The US trade deficit narrowed to \$11.89 billion in December as the trade gap for all of last year shrank substantially from 1987, to \$137.34 billion, the Commerce Department said today.

The drop in the December deficit from November's revised \$12.22 billion came as exports rose 6.0 per cent to a record \$29.19 billion, outpacing a 3.3 per cent rise in imports to \$41.09 billion, also a record, the department said.

Shortfall

The 1988 merchandise trade deficit was 19 per cent lower

A surprise choice for a major award

Taking comfort in success

By Tim de Lisle

THE story of Paul Sayer, 33-year-old winner of the 1989 Whitbread Book of the Year prize, is the stuff of the sort of fiction that does not win lucrative and prestigious awards. The hero is a Post Office worker's son from South Milford, North Yorkshire, who leaves school at 17 and takes odd jobs before settling down as a psychiatric nurse. As well as geriatric patients, he nurses an ambition to write a novel.

He takes over a corner shop in York so as to have more independence, more of a chance to write. He completes "an initial, desultory effort" which is "quickly and rightly rejected".

He enters "a second, more substantial piece" in a local competition, the Constable Trophy for unpublished fiction; it reaches the last 24 in a field of 180. He puts it in a drawer and "grieves quietly for six months."

With a wife and baby boy to support, he returns to nursing. "Fidgety, stressed and in complete secrecy," he starts another novel, a first-person narrative set "in the mind" of an imaginary mental patient who can neither move nor speak.

He calls it *The Comforts of Madness* and goes in for the Constable Trophy again. This time he wins. The prize is £2,000 and publication. The book receives "a hatful" of good notices, and carries off the Best First Novel category of the Whitbread Prize.

This makes it one of five contenders for the main Whitbread Prize. As he joins Cabinet ministers, television personalities and celebrated men and women of letters at the prize-giving dinner, the young nurse looks forward to getting the leather-bound copy of his book which is the consolation prize for the runners-up.

Instead he learns with "disbelief" that he is the winner, and collects a £20,000 cheque. He already resolved to throw in his job and write full-time; now he knows that he can afford to.

Interviewed after his victory, he displays true Yorkshire stoicism, remarking that he finds all the attention "extremely distracting".

Paul Sayer was not the only one taken by surprise when he won the prize. His publishers, Constable, were caught in

Paul Sayer, a 33-year-old hospital worker in Yorkshire, England recently won the prestigious Whitbread prize for his first book *The Comforts of Madness*. In this article he talks about his work.



Paul Sayer: one critic described his style as "beautiful"

midprint, and a number of leading London bookshops had no copies of his book. "What's his name, Sayer?" said an assistant at WH Smith in Notting Hill Gate. "I'll have to see... No, sorry, it's reprinting at the moment. I don't know when we'll have it."

The publishers' press officer, who was shepherding a bemused Sayer through his first minutes of fame, said this was the second reprint; so they must have sold 4,000 copies now, which is not bad for a hardback first novel. It is nothing to what they will sell

now, if they can get the copies out quick enough.

The author himself, pausing at the Great Northern Hotel, King's Cross, on his way back to York, said it wasn't so much the sales that counted, or, indeed, the prize.

Successful

"For me the book was already successful before the Whitbread. There was the Constable Trophy, and then the reviews, and we'd sold the paperback rights. For me that really made it the idea that it would have a life beyond the original publica-

tion. I thought that was a knock-out."

He began to write when he left school — "pretty adolescent stuff" — and has always read voraciously. "The two must go hand in hand. I try to read everyone."

He particularly admires Kafka and Beckett, and hopes that their influence can be seen in *The Comforts of Madness*.

He admits to having "fretted constantly" over the relationship between the work he was doing at the hospital and the events portrayed in his novel. "But it's not terribly close. The physical descriptions are quite plainly the place where I work, but there's only a slender veracity about the rest of it."

All he was trying to do was "write a good novel, something of literary quality, short and to the point". The result was 128 pages of prose whose style — described by more than one critic as "beautiful" — is as striking. A follow-up is already well under way; it too is set in "the big and silent world of the mentally ill".

Fellow nurses at Clifton Hospital in York described Sayer yesterday as a quiet and "very sensitive" man, well liked by patients and colleagues; and at the Great Northern Hotel it was not hard to detect a gentle humour beneath the phlegmatic exterior.

The other day, he said, he had heard on the local news that they were burning a prize-winning book. He was severely shaken, first because "I thought, the only prize-winning book I know of round here is mine", then he saw the pictures of Salman Rushdie's novel — at the time the Whitbread favourite — being put to the torch by outraged Muslims.

He has not read Rushdie's book — "I couldn't afford it, I thought I'd wait for the paperback" — but found him "court-teous" at the Whitbread dinner, and rates him as a "formidable" talent. "I couldn't hold a candle to him."

Afterwards, over a pint of bitter, he said he was sorry he was so boring. "I'm no good at being the outgoing novelist. These people —" he motioned to the ladies from his publishers — "must find me impossible."

● *The Comforts of Madness* is published by Constable at £9.95

By Anotol Lievev

PAKISTAN: Zia and After must come close to holding the world record for speed of production. Begun immediately after Zia's death, it appeared a month later. This is largely the achievement of Shreeram Vidyarthi, the publisher celebrated with a lengthy foreword.

Those readers not put off by this tinny blast will find a very useful introduction to the state of Pakistan.

In particular, this book is a good source of ready reference for facts, dates and statistics. The haste with which it was written has not affected the accuracy of its facts or the maturity of its judgements.

They are, however, very different judgements, though one is not told which part of the book is by which journalist. This is an amusing problem for the analyst, but in general the reader may produce something like sea-sickness, as the book veers from a half-way sympathetic view of Zia in the early chapters to a very hostile one at the end. This probably also reflects a geographical shift in perspective, from the more detached stand of

Zia under scrutiny



Zia-ul-Haq (left) and Zulfikar Ali Bhutto: the author suggests that Zia's trial of Bhutto and his execution was a travesty of judicial procedure

Anthony Hyman to the strongly engaged ones of Ghayur and Kaushik. The English employed also gains an increasingly subcontinental flavour as the book progresses.

The sympathetic attitude to Zia at the start emerges indirectly, through comparison with his predecessors and especially, of course, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto. The book makes clear that Zia's trial and execution of Bhutto was a

travesty of judicial procedure. It also, however, emphasizes that Bhutto's rule was scarcely less brutal, and a good deal more arbitrary, than that of Zia.

The difference stems from both class and characters: Bhutto the aristocrat, arrogant, Westernized and individualist; and Zia the lower-middle class officer in a corps dominated by nobles, pious, cautious, hiding his strength behind organization

and tradition. When they are compared, it is sometimes said that Bhutto at least had some vision of a changing and developing Pakistan, which Zia wholly lacked.

Changes

This is not quite accurate. Zia's Islamic plans for Pakistan were in no sense progressive or democratic, but they would have entailed very great changes in the inchoate, culturally and nationally fissiparous Pakistan of today.

As the authors stress, Zia failed in his attempt to make Pakistan more united. Indeed, martial law, by forcing divisions underground, may well have made them worse. Their book does not seek a deeper analysis of Pakistani society, or an answer to Tariq Ali's question, "Can Pakistan survive?"

What it does well is to provide a useful sketch of a man who, for all his toughness and subtlety, left his country as unstable as when he found it and ultimately failed in the basic test of every monarch — to keep his head on his shoulders.

Pakistan Zia and After By Anthony Hyman, Muhammad Ghayur, & Nareesh Kanishk Asia Publishing House, £6.95

Intuitive creativity from a housewife-turned-author

By Q. Riaz

IT WASN'T very long ago that writing came a poor second to being a housewife for author Bapsy Sidha. But all that has changed dramatically.

Today she is an internationally acknowledged author whose books have been published in the US, UK, India and Pakistan. Her third and most recent book *Ice Candy Man* (William Heinemann, is being translated into Russian.

Living in Lahore, bringing up her three children and leading an active social life never left her much time for writing. But Bapsy would write, whenever she could and gradually two novels emerged. *The Bride and The Crow Eaters* (Jonathan Cape, UK).

A few newspaper articles to her credit and a college degree in Humanities, would not appear to be the ideal platform on which to launch a literary career.

But the intuitive creativity of Bapsy's work was at once recognised by publisher, Liz Calder (previously of Cape now of Bloomsbury), and it was only a matter of time before *The Bride* and *The Crow Eaters* were on sale in the English speaking world.

The Pakistan Academy awarded Bapsy the National Award for English Literature in 1985, worth US\$1,150. Further success followed. Bapsy moved to Massachusetts in the US to teach creative writing at Rice University and the University of Houston in Texas.

In between teaching she again created a stir with the quality of her prose and in 1987 won the National Endowment for the

Arts award for creative writing, worth US\$20,000.

But the success did not stop there. Bapsy was appointed a Bunting Fellow at Radcliffe College's Mary Ingraham Institute for 1986-1987, just about the most sought after post doctoral fellowship for women in the US.

So what has fame and success meant to Bapsy?

"I was always regarded as a submissive dimwit. It's good to know that I'm not!"

Gregarious

Naturally gregarious, her sense of achievement has bolstered her self confidence. "It's such a relief not to feel like a bit of very green vegetation."

Bapsy finds it difficult to understand those writers who sit, hermit-like, alone in front of their typewriters for eight hours a day, every day, when writing is an occupation to be enjoyed. If there is an element of labour involved, it is the labour of love.

"Most women are instinctual writers, while most men approach their work, intellectually," she says. She lives her life accordingly.

There are long periods of gestation while she absorbs and computes her ideas and observations. Bursts of creative activity, lasting over a period of weeks follow, during which she gets her thoughts down onto paper.

Bapsy writes about people who interest her. The detached humour in her work conveys a sense of looking on from within, enabling her to portray as in *The Crow Eaters*, the small community of Parsis to which she

belongs, with perceptive regard. There are no strongly worded passages of social condemnation in her work. Instead there are underlying themes, which quietly project her deeply felt views on bias and bigotry of all kinds.

Candy Man is the story of "Partition". Set in Bapsy's childhood Lahore, the division of a country is seen through the eyes of a young girl unable to comprehend the greater issues unravelling in front of her, she nevertheless understands the nuances of changing relationships in her now bewildering, disintegrating world.

It's a world containing people of varied social standing and religions. While each individual has a part to play, as mother, father, ayah or cook, the author manages to avoid caricaturing the character. The completely plausible characters weave together in a close community, where the main motivation for success seems to lie in the struggle for aya's favours.

Characters

Few of these characters have names. They are known, in the main, by the roles assigned to them. An aunt is referred to throughout as slave sister with such conviction that one cannot but accept her as simply that.

Like Salman Rushdie, Bapsy does not explain her people or their situations, projecting them as their own interpreters. Her ability to translate local idioms into English with the facility to make them a credible part of the English language is a unique feature of her writing. Bapsy's books have a sizeable



Bapsy Sidha

audience in Pakistan, and an even larger one in the West. But she is more popular in India where publishing houses have consistently supported writers from developing countries.

Interestingly the language these writers are evolving, which is an English peculiar to Asia and Africa, is now being recognised as a form of English in its own right. An international conference is to be held this year in Islamabad to discuss this development.

Despite Bapsy's success and her new life in the US, she still feels her home is in Lahore. Having proved to everyone, including herself, how capable she really is, Bapsy is now trying to arrange her life in a way that will enable her to spend more time where she feels she actually belongs, which is with her family and the friends she grew up with.

Something for film buffs to argue about

By Kathleen Silvasy

WASHINGTON, (UPI): John Kobal needed a distraction. So, with a little prompting and a lot of work he hadn't planned on, he came up with the kind of list that will keep film buffs arguing for years.

Kobal, a noted film archivist and the author of several books on the history of cinema, has put together *John Kobal Presents The Top 100 Movies of All Time* (Plume, 144 pp., \$9.95 PB), based on a survey of leading critics, writers and filmmakers worldwide.

Each film, from the top-rated *Citizen Kane* to No. 100 (*Village in Italy*), includes a synopsis, some with quotes from directors, stars and craftsmen who worked on the project.

"People love lists," said the Canadian-born Kobal, 46. "The best 100 recipes of all time, the best books of all time."

"I have been working — since 1983 — on a book on Cecil B. DeMille," he said, and went on to explain that he needed a breather from this time-consuming project. "I've been writing and researching, so anytime anyone came up with a distraction I jumped, and this was one of those distractions."

But the "distraction" proved to be a formidable task. "Usually a book has a theme, you move in a single line," he said. "If you've got to write something about each of the top 100 movies of all time you can't be too waffly you can't be too stupid — even if it's 200 words."

The films are important. They have taken a place in film history, some in world history. "Suddenly I realized it wasn't just me sitting down and writing 'Rita Hayworth, 'Red Hair' or 'Susan Sarandon, attractive.' You have to think about it. You realize my God, what have I done to myself, this is more work than Cecil B. DeMille."

World

Another "World" that kept Kobal on the edge was deadline, and trying to get the respondents to get their questionnaires in on time.

"I sent it to 120 people around the world, 84 replied," he said. "We were still chasing some of the people, some of the contributors, which I never thought I'd have to do. Calling up people like Andrew Sarris (critic for the *Village Voice*) saying, 'where's

your list, where's your list.' "I didn't even know what the final 100 were until a month before we had to have the whole text," he said. "It turned out to be a lot of work and it did turn out to be fascinating."

"I hope in the end it is a bit information and amusing and makes you want to know more and read more and see the movies."

Kobal conceded *Citizen Kane* in the No. 1 slot was almost a foregone conclusion. While he admires it for its technical genius, the movie fell short of his own criteria in judging film excellence — one that leaves room for the viewer.

"I wouldn't want to end up in a desert island with *Citizen Kane*, but a lot of people do," he said. In the last few years, with films being taught so much and with the power of America, Kobal said *Citizen Kane* has become the major representative film to a lot of people who aren't Americans.

"In an era of extraordinary movies, *Citizen Kane* was merely part of that kind of thing, rich and interesting. But it's a film that doesn't need you. I prefer films that leave space for me."

"It's better for breaking down and seeing how it's done. It's pretty complete of its kind, the pieces fit pretty neatly together. It has brilliant things in it, but somehow it doesn't have much room. Whereas *Gone with the Wind* (No. 37) with all its flaws, it had such a life, such an excitement it carries me over the patches... each time you see it you feel it."

Tastes

"Actually," he said, "my personal tastes start after the 39th movie *La Dolce Vita*."

One surprise in the final tally No. 97, *The Night of the Living Dead*, a 1969 low-budget slash-and-scream number by horror honcho George Romero

"Each generation will define its own classics," Kobal said. "But think about it, think about the time it was made, this kind of cheap, 'El Flicko' black and white movie in such gross taste."

"Young people who go off to drive-ins to do their necking, they just loved it. The movie ate everything — it ate parental opposition, it ate the rotten society we're living in. They saw something in the film... something quite different."

you please explain what he is suggesting, what he hopes to accomplish and if you think it is a good idea?"

ANSWER: You've got your scopes just a bit confused, but that's understandable. It's a colonoscopy that is used for rectal and colon examinations.

The colonoscope (from the Greek word kolpos, in reference to the vagina) is very much like a binocular microscope with special ability to light the vagina and particularly the cervix at the end of the vagina.

The tissue that forms the covering of the cervix may be clearly seen, and it was this tissue covering that gave rise to the cells seen on your PAP smear.

With this instrument, your physician can identify any abnormal patches of tissue, take small pieces for examination (biopsy) and determine the presence of any precancerous growth or an actual cancer. Since it is performed in the office, it is much cheaper than a hospital stay, and the side effects are minimal. Your physician is trying to make an accurate diagnosis in a manner that is least disturbing to you. I think it's a fine idea.

QUESTION: The results of my recent PAP smear were not all that either my physician or I could have wished for. Now he is proposing a colonoscopy examination, but I thought that was for rectal cancer. Can

CHRONIC COUGH SHOULD BE TREATED BY DOCTOR

FAMILY DOCTOR
By DR ALLAN BRUCKHEIM

QUESTION: My youngster, age 3, has a persistent and chronic cough that just won't quit. I've tried all the over-the-counter remedies that you see on television, but nothing changes. I know I should take him to a doctor, but I dread the possible things he may tell me. Can't you help?

ANSWER: I often wonder how many times the fear of an unknown diagnosis keeps patients out of doctors' offices and delays the diagnosis and treatment of important health problems.

It's true that a chronic cough in youngster this age may be the symptom of a serious disease, but the situation can only continue to develop, growing more difficult to treat and correct. Most of the common causes of coughing in children are infections, ranging from the flu to pneumonia or even tuberculosis, but fortunately, there are effective antibiotics for all of these conditions.

It's possible that the cough is a response to some irritant in the environment, such as tobacco smoke or fumes from wood burning stoves. Allergy or asthma may be the base for inflammation, resulting in chronic cough. Some congenital conditions, involv-

ing either the heart or lungs or both, may result in the abnormalities that provoke a continuing, chronic cough.

Less common, but still possible are a long list of conditions caused by the failure of the immune system to function, resulting in lung conditions like sarcoidosis. Even the presence of an unidentified foreign body in the esophagus or bronchial tubes can be the culprit, and can be speedily removed to eradicate that annoying cough.

The list goes on, far too long to include all the possibilities here. All these problems can be discovered in a careful medical examination, and the appropriate use of blood tests, pulmonary function tests and bronchoscopy. With the diagnosis comes a plan of action that can lead to remove the causes. The best help I can offer you here is to assure you that the fear is often greater than the reality and to offer you a very firm recommendation to get the medical care your child really needs.

QUESTION: The results of my recent PAP smear were not all that either my physician or I could have wished for. Now he is proposing a colonoscopy examination, but I thought that was for rectal cancer. Can

you please explain what he is suggesting, what he hopes to accomplish and if you think it is a good idea?"

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1989 TRIBUNE MEDIA SERVICES, INC.

A new Swedish master of gloom

By Lars Feyen

STOCKHOLM. (Reuters): Swedish playwright Lars Noren is winning international audiences with soul-wrenching domestic dramas reminiscent of the dark tales spun by his illustrious compatriots August Strindberg and Ingmar Bergman.

In 1988, his plays were staged in some 25 cities around the world including Paris, London, Buenos Aires, West Berlin, Vienna and Amsterdam.

Noren has been called a modern Strindberg. Despite the fact that his gruelling dramas often run for more than four hours and paint a despairing picture of human relations, he is by far the most widely played modern dramatist to emerge from Sweden.

Problems

"The problems portrayed in my plays are shared by all people. The human condition has no national character," he told journalists in a recent and rare interview.

Noren, 44, a compact, balding man with piercing eyes, drinks mineral water and smokes French cigarettes. He rarely

smiles.

Noren detests superficial contact. His answers are hesitant, often laconic.

"This interview is like an iceberg. Almost everything is hidden under the surface," he said.

Noren is best known for his trilogy — *Night is Mother to the Day*, *Chaos is Neighbour to God* and *The Stillness*.

Set in the 1950s in a family-run hotel threatened by bankruptcy, the plays portray the tormented bonds of abuse and deceit between an alcoholic father, a cancer-stricken mother and their two grown sons, the elder a bitter idler, the younger a mentally unstable would-be writer.

"I do not consciously write to amuse or depress. I just write the plays I must write. I feel completely empty when I am not writing," Noren said.

"Each play is a universe which is closed and true in itself. I have no message, no purpose, except love for my characters."

He began writing poetry in the 1960s while working as a newspaper proof-reader. Then, 10 years ago, something happened.

"I was having a recurring

dream I didn't understand. Poetry didn't help, the only way was to write a play about it."

The play was called *Courage to Kill*, an Oedipal father and son drama set in a kitchen.

Inspiration comes in flashes to Noren.

"I began writing *The Comedians* (about a playwright and a stage director on vacation with their families) after seeing with my inner eye a woman leaning down and her hair being caught in a thorn bush," he said.

Dislikes

Noren dislikes being seen as the third voice in a Swedish tradition encompassing Strindberg and Bergman.

"I see no likeness with them at all," he said.

Like Strindberg and Bergman, he found it hard to gain recognition in Sweden. Some critics once derided his work as meta-physical, cruel and riddled with unnecessary shock effects.

His response was to stage his plays' premieres abroad.

The *Stillness* opened in Amsterdam in 1986, while this year *Hebriana* about a schizophrenic girl and her family will open in Oslo, and *Autumn and Winter* in

Copenhagen.

Noren has the reputation of an eccentric genius completely immersed in his work.

"I work at night, every night. Each play takes about one year to finish. I live with my characters, even dream about them, as they evolve before me. I cut off everything else when I work," he said.

"I don't read newspapers. I don't follow the cultural scene. My interest lies with the people I am writing about."

He lives alone in an apartment in Stockholm's most fashionable area, accepting visits only from his two daughters.

Noren's work is strongly influenced by Freud.

He has a passion for 1950s jazz, likes to play chess and is fascinated by the eccentric US chess player Bobby Fischer. He is working on a play tentatively called *Bobby Fischer Lives* in Pasadena, which he says is not about Fischer.

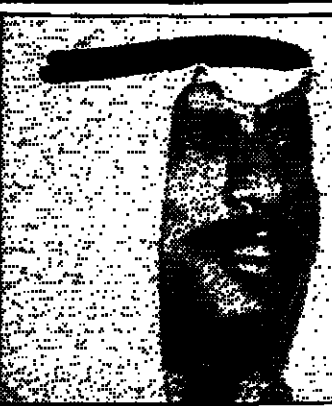
Noren says he has written a seven-hour play, his literary tour de force.

"But there is no hurry. As long as I don't release it I can keep it to myself in peace."

ANDY CAPP

By Smith





عربوں کے درمیان کسی بھی قسم کا رابطہ عرب اور اسلامی دنیا کے لئے سودمند ہوگا

عرب، ایشیائی اور افریقی ممالک کے خلاف عرب تحریک نے، عربیت کو صرف مذہبی اور قومی قیاس کی بنیاد پر

شرق وسطیٰ میں شائع ہونے والا پہلا اردو اخبار

عرب ٹائمز

ہفتہ ۱۲، مہینہ ربیعہ ۱۴۰۹ھ، ۱۸ فروری ۱۹۸۹ء، پچھتہ ایڈیٹر احمد جبار اللہ

سری لنکائیوں کے انتخابات میں حکمران پارٹی نے فیصلہ کن اکثریت حاصل کر لی

صد رانا سنگھ نے مراداسا ایچ سی کا بیٹے کا اعلان کر کے کیونیا میں جیتا

مرکش اور مغربی عرب علما کی اتحادی تحریک کے قیام کا اعلان

بزرگ ایک سال کے لئے اتحاد کا پیڑ میں بنے گا مشترک اولیٰ نام ہوئے

مسئلہ افغانستان کے تصفیہ کیلئے تعاون کیا جائے، گور باجوف کی دنیابھر سے اپیل



برائش عام انتخابات آئندہ سال میں کرانے کا اعلان

برائش عام انتخابات آئندہ سال میں کرانے کا اعلان

افغان شوری کے اجلاس میں عبوری حکومت کی تشکیل پر غور شروع ہو گیا

افغان شوری کے اجلاس میں عبوری حکومت کی تشکیل پر غور شروع ہو گیا

پاکستان اور بنگلہ دیش کے شہروں میں شیطانی آیات کے خلاف مظاہرے

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کابل اور غزنی پر چھاپہ ماروں کے راکٹ حملے ۱۹ افراد ہلاک ۱۲ زخمی ہو گئے

کابل اور غزنی پر چھاپہ ماروں کے راکٹ حملے ۱۹ افراد ہلاک ۱۲ زخمی ہو گئے

نیپال کی حکومت نے شیطانی آیات کے خلاف مظاہرے

نیپال کی حکومت نے شیطانی آیات کے خلاف مظاہرے

پاکستانی پارلیمنٹ میں مجاہدین کی تاریخ ساز جدوجہد کو خراج تحسین

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E. GERMANY SEND WEAK TEAM FOR EUROPEAN MEET

Christie aims for sprint double



Christie: Europe's premier sprinter

THE HAGUE, Feb. 17, (Reuters): Linford Christie, Europe's fastest man, aims for an unprecedented sprint double in the 60 and 200 metres at the two-day European Indoor Athletics Championships starting tomorrow.

The 28-year-old Briton showed he had made a full recovery from a hamstring strain which has affected his training this northern winter when he set the year's fastest times in both events at an invitational meeting in Stuttgart, West Germany, last Sunday.

Missed

"I believe I can win one event at least," Christie said. "What spurs me on is the thought of doing both. But I know how hard it will be because I just missed out on doing the double last year."

Christie clocked 6.52 seconds over 60 metres and 20.65 for the 200 in Stuttgart and looks set to clinch the double which eluded him in Budapest last year.

The Olympic 100 metres silver medalist won the 60 metres but faltered over the longer distance, finishing a well-beaten third.

Christie, who became the first European to break 10 seconds for the 100 metres when he finished behind Carl Lewis in last year's Seoul Olympics final, made his international break-

rough three years ago when he won the 200 at the Madrid European Indoor Championships.

Since then he has become Europe's premier sprinter, winning the European 100 metres title in 1986 and both the 100 and 200 metres in the European Cup the following year.

Barring injury or accident, the 60 metres looks a formality but the 200 is a more difficult proposition.

Defending champion Nikolai Razgonov of the Soviet Union will be chasing Christie hard as will fellow-Britons Ade Mafe and John Regis.

Mafe clocked the year's second fastest time of 20.80 in San Sebastian, Spain, last Friday while Regis, the world championship bronze medalist, returned 20.94 in his season's debut in Stuttgart.

Although Britain have picked a strong team, including Olympic high hurdles silver medalist Colin Jackson, the other major European athletics nations have named distinctly low-key squads.

East Germany, in particular, have sent what must be one of their weakest teams for indoor championships.

With most of their leading athletes taking the winter off follow-

ing a hectic Olympic year, East Germany's main title hopes appear to be shot putters Ulf Timmermann and Heike Hartwig.

Timmermann, who won a dramatic Olympic competition with his last throw in Seoul, set a European record of 22.55 metres in the national championships in Senftenberg last weekend. Hartwig, sixth in the women's Olympic final, set a season's best of 20.51 in Senftenberg.

The Soviet Union have selected Olympic women's long jump bronze medalist and world outdoor record holder Galina Chistyakova in a team which also looks to be well below full strength.

Chistyakova has the year's best mark of 7.30 metres as well as setting a world indoor triple jump record. The women's triple jump is not a championship event.

Neither Sergei Bubka nor Rodian Gataulin, the world's two top pole vaulters, will be taking part and it looks as if they both plan to travel to Budapest for the World Indoor Championships in two weeks.

World indoor high jump record holder Carlo Thraenhart of West Germany will also miss the championships in favour of the Budapest meeting.

Cairns to join team touring S. Africa

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, Feb. 17, (AP): Former New Zealand Test cricketer Lance Cairns said today he will join an international team on a three-week tour to South Africa.

Cairns said he would fly to South Africa next week to join an international Wanderers team which will play matches as part of the South African Cricket Union's centenary celebrations.

The Wanderers, Cairns told the New Zealand Press Association, would play three games against a South African Golden Oldies side in Cape Town, Johannesburg and Durban.

Cairns said he had no qualms about playing in South Africa, which is ostracised from international cricket because of its government's policy of racial separation, but said it was something he would not have contemplated if he was a current Test player.

"My playing days at first-class level are well and truly finished," he said.

"From what I can gather South African cricket is fully integrated, and that's something they want to try to explain. As I understand it there is a big crowd of Australian and English journalists also going."

"I believe you can't make judgements about anything until you have at least been to a place."

Discourage
Cairns' trip does not concern the New Zealand Cricket Council, which cannot prevent any cricketer from playing in South Africa.

"We wouldn't discourage any of our players from going there, because we have no right to stop them from going," NZCC chairman Barry Paterson said.

Paterson said several members of the NZCC board had also been invited to attend the SACU centenary celebrations, but would not be going.

Former England captain Tony Greig, now a resident of Australia, later confirmed in Sydney that he would be part of the international Wanderers team.

"I can't wait to catch up with old friends, both off and on the cricket field," said Greig, who was born in South Africa.

"The team will be a multi-racial one of former Test captains and players from all around the world."

"It is not a rebel tour in the slightest. It's simply part of South Africa's celebrations. I don't care if people want to make a hullabaloo about it," he said.

Australian Cricket Board chairman Malcolm Gray said he was also invited by the South African Cricket Union, along with chief executive David Richards.

"After consultation with the ACB committee and the Australian government, we regretfully decided against accepting the invitation," Gray said.

Jamaica win

PORT OF SPAIN, Trinidad, Feb. 17, (Reuters): Jamaica beat Trinidad and Tobago by five runs in a Geddes Grant one-day 48 overs-a-side cricket match yesterday.

Scores:
Jamaica 193 for seven, innings closed (Robert Haynes 49 not out, James Adams 42). Trinidad and Tobago 188 in 47.2 overs (Brian Lara 54, Ken Williams 41, Courtney Walsh five for 27).

Van der Linden gets late freak goal for Belgians

Belgium hold Portugal in qualifier

LISBON, Feb. 17, (Reuters): A freak goal by late substitute Marc van der Linden gave Belgium a hard-earned 1-1 draw against Portugal on Wednesday in a World Cup soccer European Group Seven qualifying match.

The Antwerp winger fired over a speculative cross from the right in the 83rd minute and the ball somehow squirmed beneath the body of keeper Silvino and tricked into the net.

Van der Linden, who had come on only six minutes before, and his teammates could hardly believe their luck as Portugal had seemed set for victory.

Mix-up
Midfielder Vitor Paneira put the home side ahead eight minutes after the interval with a classic, opportunistic shot from 10 metres after a defensive mix-up.

The Belgians, who had seldom threatened in the first half, were spurred into belated action but a mixture of desperate defence and bad luck foiled them until seven minutes from the end.

The result gave Belgium four points from three games, one point ahead of both Czechoslovakia and Portugal.

Portugal opened strongly,

delighting the 60,000 crowd with a variety of fluent attacking moves that rattled the Belgian defence.

After six minutes, Paneira glided past three defenders only to be hacked down just outside the penalty area. Free kick specialist Antonio Sousa struck a well-placed drive which keeper Michel Preud'Homme managed to tip wide.

Nine minutes later Paulo Futre, always threatening to show the form that has inspired Atletico Madrid, fired a dipping shot just past Preud'Homme's right-hand post from 20 metres.

But the Belgians, while rarely venturing deep into the Portuguese half, began to settle with Stephane Demol marshalling the defence and Enzo Scifo doing a similar job in midfield.

The visitors came close to scoring only once in the first half when a short header from defender Georges Grun forced a fine diving save from Silvino in the 45th minute.

Evaporated

The increased confidence shown by the Belgians after the interval evaporated after eight minutes when Franky van der

Elst tried to head clear a Rui Barros shot.

The ball broke loose at the foot of Paneira, who wheeled round and hammered a vicious drive past the helpless Preud'Homme.

The Belgians immediately abandoned their defensive system and launched wave after wave of attacks on the home goal.

Marc Emmers burst through in the 57th minute but could only blast the ball against Silvino, and the visitors had a strong penalty claim dismissed 13 minutes later when Erik Gerets was brought down by Joao Pinto.

Portugal seemed coasting to a victory that would have given them a clear lead in the group until Van der Linden came on for the strike Demol and scored when the danger seemed least.

"Portugal could have won and I consider we got a good result," Belgian manager Guy Thys said. "We have a good chance of qualifying along with Portugal, whom I think are the other favourites."

Portuguese manager Julio Cernadas "Juca" said: "A draw at home is always bad, particularly given the way we

attacked in the second half.

"Their goal was very unlucky for us, but that happens in football," he said.

Teams

PORTUGAL: Silvino, Joao Pinto, Antonio Oliveira, Luis Sobrinho, Antonio Veloso, Adelino Nunes, Vitor Paneira (Cesar Brito 85), Antonio Sousa, Paulo Futre (Antonio Pacheco 60), Rui Barros, Jose Semedo.

BELGIUM: Michel Preud'Homme, Erik Gerets, Georges Grun, Stephane Demol (Marc van der Linden 77), Michel de Wolf, Bruno Versavel, Marc Emmers, Enzo Scifo, Franky van der Elst, Jan Ceulemans, Marc Degryse.

Claydon leads

MELBOURNE, Feb. 17, (Reuters): British amateur Russell Claydon had more fun in the Australian Masters golf championship today to retain a share of the lead after the second round. The tubby English amateur champion, a one-stroke leader overnight, shot a four-under-par 69 to card 135 over 36 holes along with Australians Peter Fowler and Craig Parry.

Italy recall

BORGONOV 17, (Reuters): Fiorentina striker Stefano Borgonovo was recalled today to the Italian soccer squad for a friendly against Denmark.

He scored two decisive goals in last week's defeat of League leaders Internazionale Milan.

Borgonovo, uncapped despite being included in the squad twice before, scored an equaliser and then the winner in Fiorentina's shock 4-3 triumph last Sunday which ended Inter's unbeaten League run this season.

Borgonovo, 26, was the only addition to the squad called up for Italy's last game against Scotland in December which the 1990 World Cup hosts won 2-0.



● Florence Griffith Joyner, United States' triple gold medalist at the 1988 Olympics, smiles as she receives the Golden Camera, a West German television award, in West Berlin on Thursday evening. (Reuters wirephoto)

Johnson took steroid, says personal physician

TORONTO, Feb. 17, (Reuters): Ben Johnson's personal physician said in an interview published yesterday that the disgraced Olympic sprinter took a banned steroid on one occasion four months before the Seoul Olympics last year.

The Toronto Star quoted Dr Jamie Astaphan as saying in a telephone interview from the Caribbean island of St Kitts that Johnson was depressed last May over a hamstring injury that threatened to end his rivalry with Carl Lewis for the 100 metres gold medal at the Games.

"He bought stanozolol or somebody bought it for him in Toronto," Astaphan said, but immediately after taking it Johnson suffered "violent muscle spasms."

"He was immediately brought to me and I nursed him back to top condition," the physician told the newspaper.

Astaphan said Johnson was not on stanozolol when he beat Lewis in a world-record time of 9.79 seconds in Seoul for the 100 metres gold, a medal taken away from him when he tested positive for stanozolol use by Olympics officials.

Asked how he could be sure, Astaphan replied: "I must admit that even though I am his personal physician, there's no way I can keep a constant check on him."

"But it would not make any sense for an athlete to go back on a drug which a few months previously could have ruined him for life."

Johnson has said he never knowingly took performance-enhancing drugs. Astaphan has denied ever prescribing such drugs for Johnson or other athletes on Canada's Olympic team.

Smith feels cheated out of 100 metres world record

TORONTO, Feb. 17, (AP): Calvin Smith, the 100-metre world record holder until Ben Johnson broke his mark at the 1987 World Championships in Rome, says he feels cheated out of track and field's most coveted record.

Smith's mark of 9.93 seconds stood for four years until Johnson sprang a 9.83 in Rome. The US sprinter suspected then that Johnson was using performance-enhancing drugs and that belief has strengthened since Johnson's disqualification for steroid use at the 1988 Seoul Olympics.

Progressed
"I don't think he could have gone that fast without the drugs," Smith said yesterday in a telephone interview from his Florida home. "Knowing Ben and his progression and the way I feel things went along the last two years, I did not feel he could set a world record."

"Looking at him, he progressed so fast I felt that something was wrong. I felt that I was in some way cheated by Ben."

No matter runner has come close to Johnson's time. Johnson ran a 9.79 in Seoul but that was wiped out by his

positive test for steroid use. American Carl Lewis, who ran 9.92 in Seoul, officially is the second-fastest sprinter ever.

"I don't see it being broken any time soon," Smith said of Johnson's record. "Our times are getting better, so there is always a slight possibility."

But for a non-drug runner to run that fast, he has to have an exceptional race from start to finish. It would have to be a perfect race.

Smith said young runners now feel they have nothing to shoot for, because Johnson's record seems beyond possibility.

"It hurts the sport in the sense that it affects the young runners coming up. They can't really set any goals for themselves. The athletes that are on drugs are putting the records so far down they're not going to be broken for a number of years."

W. Germans to face dope tests during training

BONN, Feb. 17, (Reuters): West Germany is to introduce random dope testing in training in four major Olympic sports.

In an experimental scheme, backed by a one million mark (\$550,000) government subsidy, competitors in athletics, weightlifting, rowing and speed skating face tests from September for banned drugs during training.

A study group, set up by the West German Sports Federation and National Olympic Committee after doping scandals at the Seoul Olympics, said yesterday it hoped to extend the tests to other sports from early 1990.

"It is not possible to start testing with all sports at once. We haven't got enough people or equipment to do so," committee chairman Ulrich Feldhoff said.

Before extending testing the committee will also study the cost of the mobile testing units.

Athletes who refuse to undergo tests will not receive official financial backing.

Special

Young athletes are earmarked for testing as well as established internationals. "We have to keep a special eye on youth in sport," Feldhoff said.

Last month's meeting of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) council in Singapore discussed the possibility of random tests in training worldwide.

Vice-chairman Arne Ljungqvist said at the time: "The only way to get rid of this problem is to conduct tests outside competition."

"Our idea is to appear anywhere, any time, without warning. The tests must be frequent enough to make people run the risk of being caught."

The four West German sports federations involved welcomed the plan yesterday but said testing had to take into account harmless drugs.

"We have to make sure athletes in winter can still take drugs for coughs and colds," West German Rowing Federation representative Carl-Heinz Grosse said.

Hussein to run in Boston marathon

BOSTON, Feb. 17, (AP): Ibrahim Hussein of Kenya, Juma Ikangaa of Tanzania and John Treacy of Ireland, who combined in the most exciting finish in Boston marathon history, and Joan Benoit Samuelson head the men's and women's fields for the 1989 edition of the world's oldest marathon on Monday, April 17.

Hussein, who beat out Ikangaa by one second in 1988, will also be challenged by 1988 Olympic gold medalist Gelindo Bordin of Italy, Takeyuki Nakayama of Japan, the world's top-ranked marathoner in 1987, and 1988 New York City marathon winner Steve Jones.

Samuelson, the winner of the 1984 women's Olympic marathon gold medal, will be running for the first time in Boston since she set the women's record for the marathon in the 1983 race, 2:22:43.

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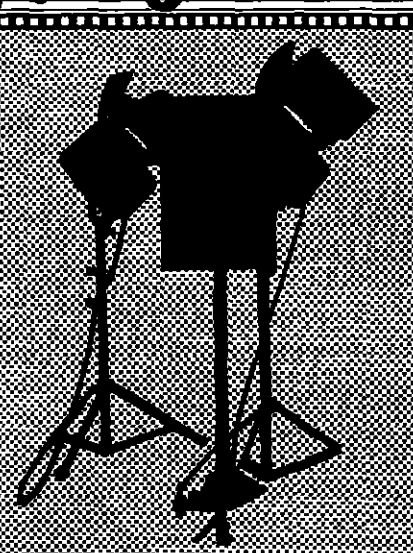
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Arsenal bid to stretch League lead at QPR

LONDON, Feb. 17, (Reuters): Small clubs with big FA Cup ambitions will distract some of the top names in English soccer tomorrow while Arsenal set about the task of stretching their First Division lead at Queen's Park Rangers.

Tony Agana and Brian Deane, a formidable pair of forwards with 20 goals apiece this season, carry Third Division Sheffield United's hopes against Norwich in the fifth round of the FA Cup and Second Division Bournemouth hope history will repeat itself against Manchester United.

Shortened

The odds against Grimsby, from the lower reaches of the Fourth Division, beating Cup holders Wimbledon for a place in the quarterfinals have been shortened a little with the suspension of the London club's hardman midfielder Vinny Jones — known to his rivals as "Psycho" — after his fourth sending off in 22 months.

Arsenal's own Cup hopes ended in the third round when they were beaten by West Ham but their surprise exit has at least left them free to concentrate on the League title.

A 2-0 victory over France on Wednesday and a string of four away wins has filled them with confidence and the London side

could move six points clear of Norwich if they win tomorrow.

Arsenal's only fitness doubt concerns Irish defender David O'Leary who took a knock on the cheekbone against France.

Liverpool's catalogue of injury problems continues with worries about Welsh striker Ian Rush who injured his knee in training but hopes to be ready to travel to Hull for their FA Cup tie.

Manager Kenny Dalglish may bring back Scottish defender Gary Gillespie, who has missed 23 games following a knee operation, to counteract the striking power of Hull duo Keith Edwards and Billy Whitehurst.

Edwards, the leading scorer in all competitions among current League players, has collected 12 goals in the last seven matches and will be bidding to equal his personal record of scoring in eight successive games.

"Liverpool are the best team in the land but we are playing very well," he said. "We're full of confidence and I am sure we will cause them one or two problems."

England goalkeeper Chris Woods, out of action for three months because of a virus, will make his first team comeback for Glasgow Rangers in the fourth round of the Scottish Cup, against Stranraer, tomorrow.



Rush: Injured during training

Amiable Bournemouth manager Harry Redknapp is too much of a realist to boast that his home side will humble Manchester United.

"Our whole team cost £200,000 (\$354,000), and Luther

Blissett was £60,000 of that," he said. "Manchester United have spent millions. They are the biggest club in the country and always will be."

"They have some outstanding players, are doing well in the

First Division and have won their last six League and Cup games. We shouldn't have a prayer."

But Redknapp, a skilful winger in his playing days with West Ham, is no defeatist.

"We are playing well and this will be a typical Cup tie, with the smaller club having home advantage against the giant," he said. "United will be playing on a small ground instead of their massive stadium and we are not going into this tie in awe of them."

Redknapp has already tasted FA Cup success against United, the club he idolised as a youngster.

Two months after taking over as Bournemouth manager in November 1983 his team, then in the Third Division, beat United 2-0 in the third round.

The Manchester club avenged that defeat the following season when they beat Bournemouth 3-0 at Old Trafford, also in the third round, and went on to win the trophy.

Redknapp will be looking to Blissett to add to the 11 goals he has scored since moving to the south coast club from Watford in November.

"He's done really well for us and will relish the big match atmosphere tomorrow," said the manager.

SPORTS

SPORTS BRIEFS

Real held

MADRID, Feb 17, (Reuter): Sporting Gijon fought back to hold visitors Real Madrid to a thrilling 5-5 draw in their second round first leg Spanish Cup soccer tie on Wednesday.

African Cup

TUNIS, Feb 17, (Reuter): Libya has withdrawn from the African Cup soccer tournament, after earlier pulling out of the World Cup, a Tunisian Football Federation source said yesterday.

Gerry Armstrong

LONDON, Feb 17, (Reuter): Former Northern Ireland soccer international Gerry Armstrong admitted in court on Wednesday assault on a spectator and was discharged on condition he did not reoffend within one year.

League Cup

LONDON, Feb 17, (Reuter): An 85th minute own-goal by defender John Pender shattered Third Division Bristol City and spared the blushes of First Division Nottingham Forest in their English League Cup semifinal first leg on Wednesday. The two sides now meet in Bristol later this month with the scores level at 1-1.

Hawaiian Open

HAULU, Hawaii, Feb 17, (Reuter): Four months pregnant Terry-Jo Myers shot a course record six-under-par 66 yesterday to take the lead at the \$300,000 Hawaiian Open women's golf tournament.

Zeeshan wins

LAGOS, Nigeria, Feb 17, (AP): Second-seeded Zeeshan Ali of India beat Chris Garner of the United States 6-4, 3-6, 6-1 yesterday to move into the quarterfinals of the \$75,000 United Bank for Africa Tennis Classic.

Soccer friendly

LONDON, Feb 17, (UPI): Tottenham has called off its friendly soccer match against Swedish club IFK Gothenburg tomorrow because its White Hart Lane pitch is under water.

Mike Tyson

LAS VEGAS, Feb 17, (Reuter): World heavyweight champion Mike Tyson arrived back in Las Vegas to resume training on Wednesday after divorcing estranged wife, actress Robin Givens, in the Dominican Republic on Tuesday.

\$7.5m contract

BOSTON, Feb 17, (Reuter): Boston Red Sox ace hurler Roger Clemens on Wednesday signed a three-year contract worth over \$7.5 million that made him the highest paid pitcher in US Major League baseball, the team announced.

Title fight

TOKYO, Feb 17, (AP): World Boxing Association junior bantamweight champion Kaosai Galaxy of Thailand has agreed to defend his title against Japanese challenger Kenji Matsumura on April 8, the Japan Boxing Commission said yesterday.

1996 Games

WASHINGTON, Feb 17, (AP): US President George Bush yesterday made a pitch for Atlanta to host the Summer Olympic Games in 1996. Bush met briefly with Juan Antonio Samaranch of Spain, president of the International Olympic Committee, and representatives of an Atlanta group promoting the southern city for the event.

Pay cut

LONDON, Feb 17, (AP): Britain's top track athletes face a cut in pay from the nation's Amateur Athletic Board for the second consecutive year, partly as a result of a disappointing showing in the 1988 Summer Olympics.

Grand Prix

BUDAPEST, Feb 17, (Reuter): Hungary's Formula One motor race, which annually brings the avowedly capitalist Grand Prix set to communist Eastern Europe, is set to make a big loss — (\$925,000) this year, the state news agency MTI said yesterday.

TV rights

LONDON, Feb 17, (AP): The fight for the exclusive UK TV rights of the Feb 25 world heavyweight championship clash between Mike Tyson and British challenger Frank Bruno ended in victory yesterday for Australian entrepreneur Rupert Murdoch.

Promotion bid

MANCHESTER, England, Feb 17, (UPI): Manchester City soccer club hopes to sign West German striker Jochen Hees to boost its Second Division promotion bid.

CONNORS BRUSHES ASIDE SOUTH AFRICAN

Kriek upsets top-seeded Agassi

MEMPHIS, Tennessee, Feb 17, (AP): Johan Kriek used an assortment of passing shots and a strong serve to defeat No. 1 seed Andre Agassi 6-7 (7-9), 7-5, 6-3 last night and move into the quarterfinal round of the \$415,000 Volvo Tennis Indoor Championship.

After losing a set point in the first-set tiebreaker, Kriek, who won the Memphis tournament in 1982, began to wear down his younger opponent.

Kriek saved three break points in the 11th game of the second set and then held with a pair of service winners before leveling the match with a backhand winner at the net off a passing attempt by Agassi, currently the world's No. 3 ranked player.

Kriek, seeded 16th and ranked 40th in the world, broke Agassi in the fourth game of the third set and won the match with a cross-court forehand.

"I showed I can play with the best of them. It really makes me feel good," Kriek said. "I think I just out-played him from the baseline."

"I had to play my very, very



Connors scored an easy win

best tennis to beat him. 'This is definitely one of my best wins. Tonight (Thursday night), I was able to prove to myself that I am still around,' Kriek said. Agassi said he could never find the proper pace to combat Kriek. "I was surprised at his serve."

Usually he doesn't come off with the big serve at the crucial times," Agassi said. "I had pretty much dominated him before, but that wasn't the case tonight. He played well and things kind of went his way."

Kriek was to meet Richey

Reneberg, who topped Leif Shiras 6-1, 6-3, in today's quarterfinal round.

Teenager Michael Chang also pulled an upset, stunning fifth-seeded Mikael Pernfors 7-5, 6-1.

Chang broke Pernfors in games two and six of the second set to advance to a meeting with Australian Broderick Dyke, who defeated Jim Grabb 6-1, 6-4.

Ninth-seeded Kevin Curren defeated Israel's Amos Mansdorf 6-4, 6-0 and was to meet No. 2 seed Jimmy Connors.

Connors survived the rash of upsets with an easy 6-2, 6-2 victory over South Africa's Pieter Aldrich.

Jimmy Arias won yesterday's most grueling match, taking two hours and 44 minutes to eliminate No. 3 Tim Mayotte 7-6 (14-12), 6-7 (7-9), 7-6 (7-4).

The victory sent Arias, who turned down a wild card entry into the main draw and then won three qualifying matches, against No. 6 seed Brad Gilbert in today's quarterfinal round.

Gilbert advanced with a 6-2, 6-0, win over unseeded Shuzo Matsuo. The 16-year-old Chang,

seeded 11th and ranked 30th in the world, kept Pernfors off balance throughout their match with an assortment of lobs and passing shots.

After an earlier exchange of service breaks, Chang registered his second break and took the first set with a cross-court forehand.

Pernfors said the slower surface in Memphis could keep Chang from capturing his second professional title.

"I just play," retorted Chang. "This is a slow, high-bouncing surface, but I think anybody here has a good shot to win. In men's tennis today, there's so much depth that you have to always be ready to play your best."

Fisahn, who currently ranks 107th, was down 5-1 in the first set tiebreaker and overcame a service break in the third set as he showed brief flashes of the form which made him the world's No. 5 player in 1984.

Mayotte rallied from a 5-1 deficit in the third set tiebreaker to pull within 5-4 before making a pair of errors that allowed Arias to advance.

Maleeva survives 2nd round scare

FAIRFAX, Virginia, Feb 17, (UPI): Manuela Maleeva nearly was knocked out of the \$300,000 Virginia Slims of Washington by a bad night's sleep.

Third-seeded Maleeva, who turned 22 on Tuesday, barely survived her second-round match yesterday, ousting Ann Henricksson 6-4, 4-6, 6-3 in a two hour, five minute marathon that came after Maleeva suffered a restless night that included a room change at her hotel.

Rooming with her husband, Swiss tennis coach Francois Fragniere, Maleeva was kept awake by the throbbing sounds of a disco floor below.

PARIS, Feb 17, (Reuter):

French captain Pierre Berbizier, pledging spectacular efficiency, urged his teammates to beware a Welsh backlash in the Five Nations Rugby Union Championship clash tomorrow.

Critics of Wales, plunged into gloom by successive defeats against Scotland and Ireland, have called the French match "mission impossible" against the team with which they shared the 1988 championship.

France, unconvincing in their scrambled victory over Ireland last month, have abandoned controversial bulldozer scrummage tactics which did not impress the Irish, and reverted to the traditional style of playing with a hooker.

Philippe Dintans, relieved that coach Jacques Fouroux has abandoned his attempts to produce a French version of the New Zealand All Blacks, returns to his post of hooker after a four-year absence.

Berbizier, tipped to succeed Fouroux when his playing days are over, refused to entertain title thoughts.

"Wales have everything to win. They're touching bottom at the moment, and like all teams at that stage, you have to expect a reaction. Will it be against us? We'll do everything to try and stop that," the scrumhalf said.

The French were unsettled for 60 minutes against Ireland before veteran full-back Serge Blanco inspired his backs to take control of the game and notch a 26-21 success.

Blanco's wide-running and explosive acceleration, which has brought many French victories, is expected to be a major factor against Wales and their inexperienced backs.

Up front, Wales have Robert Norster back from injury, in an effort to combat French muscle and height.

Welsh coach John Ryan said they did not mind starting as underdogs.

"I know some people are saying it's a mission impossible for us, but it isn't. There's a fair bit of motivation for the players with most people writing us off," he said.

Meanwhile, England winger Chris Oti, who decimated Ireland last year with three tries, has shaken off injury and is eager to thwart Ireland's triple crown chances in their clash in Dublin tomorrow.

"All I want to do at all levels of rugby is score tries for my team," Oti said after recovering from a bruised knee cartilage.

"It feels perfectly all right. I had ultrasonic treatment and took anti-inflammatory tablets at the start of the week," he added.

Oti was instrumental in England's 35-3 drubbing of Ireland last season. But they face a very different prospect at Lansdowne Road, home of a revived and buoyant Ireland team.

Ireland led France 21-7 before finally losing a magnificent match 26-21. They then beat Wales and are now the only team capable of winning the triple crown, the coveted title contested within the nations championship by Ireland, Scotland, Wales and England.

England promised a great season when defeating Australia in November. But that proved to be a false dawn when they were held to a disappointing draw at home to Scotland.

Both teams are in a realistic frame of mind with no one making optimistic forecasts of an easy victory.

The ebullient Irish coach Jimmy Davidson said "there is no question about the talent in the England backs but what makes international rugby so exciting is that you cannot guarantee that any of the brilliant runners will occupy centre-stage."

"We aim to stop England's strikers receiving the ball through our work closer to the scrum."

Nigerians beat Saudis in Cup opener

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia, Feb 17, (AP): An 88th minute scorcher from defender Christopher Ohenhen gave Nigeria a 2-1 (0-1) win yesterday against Saudi Arabia in the opening match of the fifth World Youth Soccer Cup contest.

Saudi Arabia started strongly in the day's only game with a goal in the 14th from Sadoun Al Suraiti but were gradually ground down by the Nigerians because of poor finishing.

The Nigerians took over after half-time and levelled through Mutiu Adepolu in the 48th minute.

Stout defending by Saudi's Abdul-Rahman Al Roumi and Ahmed Madani held off the

Nigerian attack, but two minutes before the final whistle referee V. Lagenhove of Belgium awarded them a free-kick.

Ohenhen left-footed a fierce shot from 40 metres through the gaping Saudi defense and past goalkeeper Saud Al Otaibi.

Each team will now play Portugal and Czechoslovakia to produce two Group A winners for the quarterfinal round of the 16-team tournament.

The Saudi-Nigerian match launched the two-week competition after an elaborate 90-minute opening ceremony at the King Fahd International Stadium where the game took place.

White doves and coloured balloons carrying the flags of

participating nations fluttered over the stadium grounds as King Fahd inaugurated the event.

"In the name of God and with the blessing of the Almighty... I welcome and wish success to all the teams," King Fahd said.

A capacity crowd of around 70,000 filled the \$1 billion stadium named after the Saudi king and partially covered by a tent-like roof.

King Fahd was greeted by cheering and flag-waving Saudis who sang the royal anthem accompanied by the participating National Guard band.

Helped The president of the International Football Federation,

Jordan takes Bulls past Bucks

NEW YORK, Feb 17, (AP): Michael Jordan capped the 17th 20-point night of his career with a 20-foot shot with one second remaining that lifted the Chicago Bulls past the Milwaukee Bucks 117-116 last night.

Jordan, scoring 50 points for the 17th time in his career to tie Elgin Baylor for second place behind Wilt Chamberlain's 118 50-point games, had 27 in the final quarter. His winning shot came after Milwaukee's Terry Cummings could not control a

pass and lost the ball out of bounds with six seconds remaining.

Jack Sikma, who had 26 points and four 3-point field goals, had given Milwaukee a 116-113 edge with 15 seconds left. Scottie Pippen then pulled Chicago within 116-115 with nine seconds left.

Mavericks 83, Heat 80 James Donaldson pulled down 22 rebounds while scoring 16 points as the Mavericks won their first game following the trade of all-time leading scorer

Mark Aguirre. Aguirre was dealt to the Detroit Pistons on Wednesday for Adrian Dantley. Dantley was scheduled to report to Dallas this afternoon.

Rolando Blackman added 17 points for Dallas. Donaldson's rebounding total equalled a career-best. Kevin Edwards led the Heat with 16 points.

Results			
Dallas	93	Miami	80
Chicago	117	Milwaukee	116
Utah	129	Boston	114
L A Lakers	110	Portland	101
Detroit	95	Sacramento	84
Golden State	143	L A Clippers	138

AL-ZARZOWR ESTABLISHMENT PRESENTS

On the occasion of National Day, for the first time in Kuwait at Andalus Cinema Grand Qawali Competition together with the famous Indian film singers & mimicry artistes to perform on

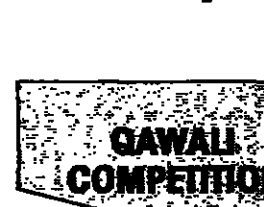


SHABIR KUMAR (Leading playback singer)



Comedy & mimicry by PALCOUNI

26th & 27th February 1989 at 6.30 pm



SAWALI COMPETITION

PARVIN SABA (Playback & Qawali singer)

BHARAT KUMAR (Playback singer)



KALPANA IYER (Film star & playback singer)



KALYANI MITRA (Playback singer)

The programme will be presented by JOHNY WISKY

Tickets are available at Andalus Cinema and the following centres:

NEW	SALMIYAH	ABBASIYA	FAHEHEEL
MURGAB Silver Video Tel. 2404636	Time Video Tel. 5641871	Al-Tamimi Video Tel. 3922217	Al-Tamimi Video Tel. 3922217
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SHARG Conary Video Tel. 2439356	Blue Marble Video Tel. 3983114	Esquire Video Tel. 3983114	Bombay Bhepuri House nr. Indian School Fahaheel
	South Al-Amer Video Tel. 4733437	Police Stn. Rd. Opp. Razi Pharmacy	

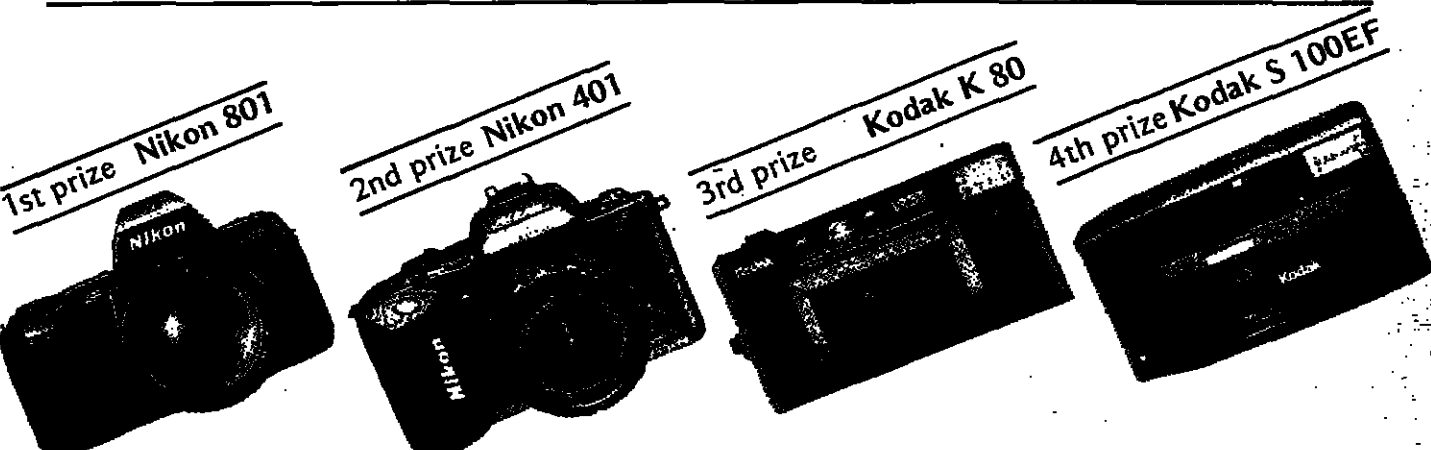
Ticket rates: KD 15, KD 12, KD 10, KD 7 & KD 5

Note: Tickets are inclusive of raffle prizes such as Atari games, cameras, air tickets, tape recorder and many more items to be presented to the winners by Johnny Wisky, during the show.

AMATEUR • PHOTO • COMPETITION



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Ashraf's offers you the opportunity to discover Kuwait and its many landmarks. Photography amateurs are invited to submit their snapshots and take part in the amateur photo competition...

MANY CONSOLATION PRIZES AWAIT THE PARTICIPANTS!

- Rules:
- Amateurs only
 - Films and prints should be on Kodak films and Kodak papers
 - Negatives handed along with prints become property of Ashraf & Company
 - Multiple entries allowed
 - Entries should be received no later than 16.3.1989 at the following Ashraf's outlets:
 - Kuwait City, Fahaheel, Farwaniya and Salmiyah
 - The decision of the jury is final and all communication regarding the decision will be disregarded
 - Names of winners and winning photographs will be displayed at the Kuwait Sheraton Hotel as from 4 p.m. on 3-9 April, 1989



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